Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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**OPINION METER**

**This week's poll:**
**Where should the U.S. government build the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument Visitors Center?**

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INSIDE

**Problem Persists**

Massive recalls of popular Toyota cars and trucks still may "not totally" solve frightening problems of sudden, unintended acceleration, the company's American sales chief conceded Tuesday, a day before the Japanese president of the world's largest automaker must confront angry U.S. lawmakers.

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**US-Bound**

Six U.S.-bound orphans seized by Haitian officials as they prepared to board a flight to Miami were to resume their journey to American homes on Wednesday after being handed over to the U.S. Embassy.

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**Rushdie Reveals**

Novelist Salman Rushdie said Tuesday he plans to write a book about his decade in hiding under a death threat from the Iranian government.

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# CUC accrues over $4M in stipulated penalties

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» EPA says notices of non-compliance ignored
» But CUC says its condition today ignored by feds

From only $630,000 for six months last year, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has accrued over $4 million in penalties as of mid-February for failure to comply with the provisions of stipulated orders related to water, wastewater and oil handling despite regular notification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency of non-compliance with the orders.

See CUC on Page 4

## House follows Senate move to formally invite Obama to visit CNMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Benavente

The House of Representatives passed on Tuesday Rep. Diego T. Benavente's House Resolution 17-5 formally inviting President Barack Obama to come to the CNMI when he and his family visit Guam on March 19 on his way to Aus-

See HOUSE on Page 4

## Fund, Board of Trustees appeal to 9th Circuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund and the Fund's Board of Trustees are appealing to the Ninth Circuit a federal court's ruling that found compelling the arguments of two unnamed retired CNMI government employees who sued Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and the Fund over alleged non-payment of their retirement benefits.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge

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## WHAT A RIDE

After a day's work, a group of nonresident workers ride at the back of a pickup truck on their way home from an area on Capital Hill. Foreign workers, employers, and investors in the CNMI are still waiting for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's final regulations on the transitional worker and investor programs, almost two years after the federalization law was signed and three months after CNMI immigration came under federal control. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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# Local

## Three US lawmakers support 5 from Marianas for AAPI posts

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus chairman Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA) and members Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) and Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) lent support to the application of five CNMI and Guam individuals for commissioner posts at the White Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

From the CNMI are Dr. Debra T. Cabrera, a sociologist and former chair of the NMI Council for the Humanities; Board of Education member Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero; and Northern Marianas College Board of Regents chair Janet King.

Those from Guam who applied for the same posts are Bank of Guam senior vice president Jackie Marati and former Sen. Francis Santos.

"We are writing to lend support to the application of the following individuals for commissioner positions at the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders…" Honda, Sablan, and Bordallo said in a joint Feb. 19 letter to Kiran Ahuja, executive director of the program.

The White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders aims to increase the participation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the full range of federal programs, including health, human services, housing, education, labor, transportation, and economic and community development, areas in which Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans may be underserved.

"We have worked on AAPI issues over the past years with these candidates, and we believe that the Commission will be well served by their participation, particularly as they represent the needs of those living in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands," Honda, Sablan and Bordallo told Ahuja.

### Brief biographies

The three lawmakers gave a brief biography of the five individuals from the CNMI and Guam.

■ Dr. Debra Cabrera holds a BA, MA and PhD degrees in sociology. Her extensive teaching and research experiences focus on issues directly impacting Pacific Islanders. Her current research projects include the impact of the extended family structures and attachments on drug use in the CNMI. She recently completed her chairmanship of the NMI Council for the Humanities, and has served on other committees and task forces that address the challenges and promises faced by Pacific Islanders.

■ Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero, an educator and filmmaker, currently serves on the CNMI Board of Education. He is the director of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison officer with NMC. As a filmmaker, he has written and produced work that captures the social and cultural dynamics of a Pacific Islander community in transition.

■ Janet King is an attorney in private practice in the CNMI and was previously an assistant Public Defender. As an active community member, she is the current chair of the NMC Board of Regents and serves on the NMI Council for the Humanities. She is admitted to practice law in Hawaii, Guam, and the CNMI.

■ Jackie Marati is the current senior vice president at the Bank of Guam, where she has worked for over 10 years. During her time with the bank, she has worked extensively with Asian American and Pacific Islander businesses, community leaders, and the general public. She is a volunteer to many civic groups, including the Make A

See LAWMAKERS on Page 4

## Directors of DEQ, DFW, Procurement, two others reappointed

### Senate receives credentials of Cabinet appointees

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial reappointed Frank Rabauliman as director of the Division of Environmental Quality and Sylvan Igisomar as director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife under the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

The governor also reappointed Herman Sablan as director of the Division of Procurement and Supply under the Department of Finance.

Also reappointed were Jose Lizama as director of the Sports and Recreation Division under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, and Mark O. Rabauliman as Registrar of Corporations under the Department of Commerce.

The five directors' reappointments do not need the advice and consent of the Senate.

"We reaffirm our confidence in your ability to perform satisfactorily in your capacity and look forward to you continuing as the director for DEQ," Fitial said in a letter to Rabauliman, who served at the helm of the division since 2006.

The Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations, meanwhile, received documents required from Fitial's Cabinet and board appointees.

These documents include resumes, statements of financial interest, drug test receipts, and police clearance for the following appointees: Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta, DCCA Secretary Melvin Faisao, Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan, Public Defender Adam Hardwicke, Public Safety Commissioner Santiago F. Tudela, Marianas Public Land Trust trustee Melchor Mendiola Jr., and DLNR Secretary Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz.

The governor has yet to name the secretaries of the Departments of Finance, Public Health, and Labor, as well as attorney general, for his second term in office.


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**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Thursday, February 25**
**Kids Clinic for 17U**
(and those who wish they were) 4pm - 6pm, PIC main court, happy hour specials and registration for Marianas Cup and Marianas Kids Cup, t-shirt and ball sales

**Friday, February 26**
**Pro Player Exhibition Event**
4pm - 6pm, PIC main court, happy hour specials and registration for Marianas Cup (closes at 6pm) and Marianas Kids Cup, t-shirt and ball sales; ProAm pool play starts at 7pm

**Saturday, February 27**
**ProAm Pool Play**
7am-8am player check in, games start at 8am and go thru 10pm, PIC food & drinks special all day

**Sunday, February 28**
**ProAm Double Elimination**
7am-8am player check in, games start at 8am and go thru to finals (around 4pm), awards cocktail banquet immediately following (approx 6pm)

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# LB hires new House counsel

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Legislative Bureau has hired long-time Civil Service Commission counsel John Cool as new counsel for the House of Representatives.

Cool, who fills up one of two vacancies for House counsel, now joins former prosecutor Matt Meyer.

Legislative Bureau Director Glenna Reyes said yesterday that Cool's first day at work was on Feb. 22.

Cool, who served as Civil Service Commission counsel for some 10 years, came to Saipan some 22 years ago.

He said yesterday that he enjoys his new job as House counsel.

Reyes also said the Legislative Bureau has announced vacant positions for one more House counsel, as well as one Senate counsel.

Former House and Senate counsels Ian Cattlett and Tony Cabrera recently left their posts. Right now, only Antonette Villagomez serves as Senate counsel.

The 20-member House needs at least three counsels, while the nine-member Senate needs at least two.

In other news, Reyes and House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) continue to be deadlocked on the speaker's recent announcement of hiring, demoting, and reassigning six individuals in the Legislature.

Reyes declined Tenorio's requests, saying they are intrusive, a political interference, pressure, unconstitutional, and will result in additional financial burden to the bureau.

Reyes

The speaker issued separate letters to Reyes on Feb. 16 and 18 about personnel action, about a month after Tenorio tried to remove Reyes from her own post.

Tenorio asked Reyes to transfer Senate journal clerk Victoria T. Guerrero, an employee of the Legislative Bureau, to the speaker's office to serve as his special assistant. Guerrero turned in her resignation.

Reyes said yesterday that since Guerrero won't be leaving until March 26, there is still time to find a replacement.

The speaker also advised Reyes of his appointment of Troy S. Taisakan, a non-Legislative Bureau employee, as House sergeant-at-arms, and appointed long-time House sergeant-at-arms Pedro O. Towai as assistant sergeant-at-arms.

Tenorio also advised Reyes of his appointment of his own office staffers—Geraldine T. Cruz and Elizabeth C. Manglona—as assistant clerks, and for the transfer of their positions and salaries to the Legislative Bureau. Cruz and Manglona, as well as the Senate journal clerk, are to take charge of the transcription and construction of the House journals, said the speaker. He also advised Reyes that he transferred the House journal clerk, also a bureau employee, to the Senate to handle Senate journals.

As of yesterday, such reassignments, hiring, and demotion had not been effectuated because Reyes, as Legislative Bureau director, refused such personnel actions, citing unconstitutionality and political interference, among other things.

# DPS investigators fail to solve Manahane's disappearance

## Crime Stoppers seek community's help

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

John Franklin Garcia Manahane, a then 25-year-old man who mysteriously disappeared on Tinian six years ago, is still missing.

As this developed, the NMI Crime Stoppers Program and the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Bureau yesterday asked help from the community for information on any person or persons involved in Manahane's disappearance.

"It is believed that foul play may have been involved in the disappearance of Mr. Manahane," said Crime Stoppers Program coordinator Jason Tarkong.

Tarkong said Manahane was reported missing on Tinian in September 2005.

Tarkong said during the course of the investigation, it was discovered that Manahane was last seen sometime in July or August of 2004.

"He is described as being 5'9" tall, and approximately 130 lbs. John was 25 when he was reported missing," the coordinator added.

The Crime Stoppers hotline is 234-7272. Tarkong can be contacted at 664-9026.

Luis Manahane, father of John, came to Saipan from Redding, California in November 2005 to follow up the disappearance of his son.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
John Franklin Garcia Manahane is shown here in a photo from his family.

Luis Manahane told *Saipan Tribune* in that visit that he received information that his son was murdered and buried near a cliff line on Tinian.

After the Attorney General's Investigative Unit failed to solve the case, Luis Manahane went back to California in December 2005.

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# Fitial seeks equality in Obama's healthcare proposal

Gov, Benigno R. Fitial has joined Guam Gov. Felix Camacho, Puerto Rico Gov. Luis Fortuño, and U.S. Virgin Islands Gov. John deJongh, Jr. in a unified stance seeking the assistance of the U.S. Congress to ensure that the United States Territories are afforded equal treatment in President Barack Obama's recent health care proposal.

In a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Leader Harry Reid, the four governors state that the President's proposal has "for the most part, left out the four and one-half million Americans who live in the U.S. Territories."

The U.S. House of Representatives had earlier passed a healthcare bill that provided $10.35 billion for the CNMI, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands over nine years. Additionally, the House included another $4 billion to assist the territories' uninsured individuals in purchasing private insurance on the new health insurance exchange established by the bill.

However, the President's latest proposal adopts the U.S. Senate's approach which limits Medicaid funding and excludes U.S. citizens residing in the U.S. Territories from even participating in the exchanges.

The governors cited the commitment made by then-President-elect Obama to support efforts for equal treatment for the Territories in federal healthcare policy.

"On behalf of our citizens, who freely risk their lives to defend our democracy but lack a vote to determine its policies, we beseech you to support the House provisions for the Territories in any reconciliation or other legislative procedure used to implement comprehensive healthcare reform," said the governors.

Fitial is optimistic that the existing disparities will be addressed by the U.S. Congress.

"As American citizens, the people of the CNMI and the other territories should rightfully be afforded equal opportunities with regards to the President's proposal for healthcare reform," added Fitial. ***(PR)***

## FUND

*From Page 1*

Alex R. Munson in that decision stayed the federal court proceedings in the lawsuit for 60 days from Jan. 25, 2010.

The Fund and its Board of Trustees, through counsels Carlyn M. Kern, Viola Alepuyo, and Deborah E. Fisher, filed a notice of their appeal yesterday in federal court.

Attorney Bruce Jorgensen is representing the plaintiffs, whose identity have been withheld apparently due to their personal safety and for fear of retaliation and persecution.

Jorgensen asked the court, among other things, to issue a declaration holding CNMI Public Law 15-15 unlawful under U.S. law as violative of rights and protections guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

P.L. 15-15 was signed into law by Fitial in June 2006. The law authorizes the suspension of CNMI payments owed to the Retirement Fund during a portion of the 2006 fiscal Year and during all of the 2007 calendar year.

Munson conducted a hearing last Jan. 14 on several motions.

Among the motions were plaintiffs' request for appointment of emergency receiver, issuance of a temporary restraining order, class certification, issuance of a judgment creditor's bill, and cross-motion to strike replies of all defendants.

Also heard were Fitial, the Fund, and the Fund Board's motions to dismiss the lawsuit.

In his order issued last Jan. 25, Munson ruled that such a stay will allow intervention in the Superior Court by interested parties to seek themselves—or to compel the Retirement Fund and its Board of Trustees to pursue—post judgment remedies in that court.

Munson said construing the complaint in the light most favorable to plaintiffs, he believes that they have alleged sufficient facts to support the court's jurisdiction and to avoid defendants' motion to dismiss.

Citing a precedent case, the judge said a court may stay or dismiss a suit where another court has concurrent jurisdiction.

Munson said a limited stay of proceedings in this court is warranted.

In their appeal, the Fund and the Board of Trustees asserted that Munson erroneously indicated that he was considering plaintiffs' motion for various forms of relief and that he found five of plaintiffs' six arguments "compelling."

The Fund and the Trustees said the judge also erroneously indicated that he believed plaintiffs had alleged sufficient facts to support the court's jurisdiction and to avoid defendants' motion to dismiss.

The appellants said Munson expressed belief that abstention order under the Colorado River doctrine was appropriate, and issued a stay for 60 days, to be re-visited upon motion of a party or on the court's own motion.

Lawyers Kern, Alepuy, and Fisher in the appeal also argued that Munson's decision to invoke a Colorado River stay dictates that the federal court will have nothing further to do in resolving any substantive part of the case, yet the judge attempts to make the stay reviewable after 60 days.

The lawyers said that, in granting the stay rather than the motion to dismiss based on the Fund and Board of Trustees not being "persons" for the purpose of a statute, the federal court has effectively denied the claims of immunity from suit.

They added that Munson should have dismissed defendants, as they were never properly served.

On June 29, 2009, Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo ruled that the CNMI government owes the Fund $231.6 million in damages and that the law suspending government contributions to the Fund is unconstitutional.

Govendo's ruling also sets the stage of negotiations to begin between the CNMI government and the Fund on how to pay the amounts owed.

## LAWMAKERS

*From Page 2*

Wish Foundation, The Academy of Our Lady of Guam, the board of directors of Pacific Islanders in Communications, and the Protocol Committee for the South Pacific Games. She was named the Public Citizen of the Year 2005 by the National Association of Social Workers on Guam.

■ Francis Santos served as a senator in the Guam Legislature from 1993 to 1998, during which he advocated for improved quality and access to healthcare for Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. He now works for StayWell Insurance, a locally established health insurance firm he helped found to offer affordable and quality healthcare to Marianas residents.

## HOUSE

*From Page 1*

tralia and Indonesia.

The Senate also adopted on Feb. 4 a similar resolution introduced by Sen. Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan).

But should lawmakers fail to persuade Obama to visit the CNMI, then maybe some 10,000 postcards and letters from public school students may do the trick.

Betty Miller, coordinator for the "Postcards for the President Campaign," said students have until March 31, 2010 to turn in their postcards or letters the president, inviting him to visit the CNMI in the future and to not coincide with his March 19 visit to Guam.

If and when Obama visits the CNMI, he will be the first sitting U.S. president to ever set foot in the CNMI.

The highest ranking U.S. official to set foot in the CNMI's capital of Saipan is former President George H.W. Bush, when he was still vice president to former President Ronald Reagan. Bush flew to Saipan on his way to a six-day visit to China in October 1985.

Lawmakers said it would be a "great honor" and an "extraordinary privilege" to have Obama visit the CNMI while he is in the region.

They said a presidential visit will bring to the fore issues critical to the CNMI, including the recent federalization of its immigration, the military buildup in Guam that will also impact the CNMI, and the creation of the Marianas Trench National Monument and the authorization for a visitor center in the region.

There's no word yet from the White House regarding the CNMI Senate resolution, while a copy of the House resolution has yet to be transmitted.

### Other resolutions passed

The House passed four other resolutions and commemorative solutions during its session on Tuesday afternoon.

Among them was Rep. Teresita Santos' (Ind-Rota) H.R. 17-6, supporting Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's bill establishing a Marianas Trench Marine National Monument visitors center in the CNMI ahead of a Thursday hearing in Washington, D.C. on this and another bill that will put the facility in Guam.

House members also passed Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro's (Cov-Saipan) H.R. 17-4, which supports the Carolinian Affairs Office in the implementation of recommendations from the Carolinian Related Language Assistance Project and the first Carolinian Language Symposium on the maintenance and preservation of the indigenous language.

Members also adopted Santos's House Commemorative Resolution 17-2, honoring the late sand sculptor from Rota, Albert Toves Jr., and HCR 17-3, honoring the late Fidel A. Mendiola.

## CUC

*From Page 1*

But CUC said the U.S. Department of Justice "ignores" the utility agency's condition at the time of the execution of the stipulated orders in March 2009 and its condition today.

All these were part of the almost hundreds of pages of documents filed by both DOJ and CUC in the U.S. District Court for the NMI from Feb. 18 to 23, in connection with a status conference to seek information relating to whether CUC has complied with the stipulated orders.

The status conference comes shortly before EPA announced yesterday that it has increased water and wastewater projects funding this year for the CNMI, Guam, and American Samoa. From only $3.2 million the previous year, the funding jumps to $37.4 million. The CNMI alone will receive $11.27 million, from only $1.05 million last year. ***(See story on Page 18)***

### 'Significant shortcomings'

Bradley R. O'Brien of DOJ's Environment Enforcement Section said CUC has wholly or partially failed to timely comply with numerous provisions of the stipulated orders.

"CUC's shortcomings are significant as they negatively impact fundamental aspects of CUC's wastewater, drinking water, and oil handling operations," he said.

DOJ warns that if CUC does not come into rapid compliance with the stipulated orders, the U.S. will consider a range of enforcement options to bring about compliance with these important orders.

Although the United States has not demanded payment for these penalties, "CUC has accrued stipulated penalties in excess of $4 million as of the filing of this status report," said O'Brien.

EPA, in a Dec. 14, 2009 letter, demanded a partial $29,000 stipulated penalty for CUC's failure to submit a timely facility response plan pursuant to Stipulated Order 2.

"CUC paid the $29,000 stipulated penalty," said DOJ.

Timothy M. Connor, counsel for CUC, said "from the time of the Orders to the present time, CUC has achieved dramatic success in reaching the goal of an enterprise that provides power to the CNMI populace without significant interruption and is moving toward full cost recovery for all of the services provides while complying with environmental laws."

### Non-compliance

CUC's non-compliance relates to fundamental underpinnings of the orders such as its failure to timely hire qualified managerial personnel such as a deputy executive director and chief financial officer, and on the ground personnel such as a technical manager for oil, as well as failure to timely create and implement an approved organizational structure and interim financial plan.

DOJ said CUC has also fallen short on easily accomplished routine tasks.

These include installing meters and billing customers based on consumption and instituting an adequately funded and staffed chlorination and disinfection program to ensure that those who provided drinking water need not be exposed to, as in the past, violations due to the presence of E. coli or fecal coliform.

E. coli and fecal coliform in drinking water present potential health concerns.

DOJ also said CUC has been wholly deficient in creating a safe and responsible oil storage, transportation and disposal program.

It said notwithstanding a history of oil contamination and spills, CUC continues to fail to provide adequate secondary containment for oil storage.

"Nor did CUC timely submit an approved facility response plan, conduct tank system integrity testing, or timely notify EPA of an oil release," DOJ said.

It said that since the entry of the stipulated orders, EPA has unsuccessfully sought CUC's compliance with these orders.

Consistent with the court's June 17, 2009 order, the parties met and conferred on Oct. 1 and Dec. 2, 2009 to discuss CUC's compliance with the stipulated orders.

CUC filed with the U.S. District Court separate declarations from its officials, led by CUC executive director Tony Muna, presenting the progress made by CUC in its power, water, wastewater and oil handling.

### Stipulated orders

In March 2009, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson signed stipulated orders that set requirements and deadlines for CUC to meet.

The orders represent the agreement between the CNMI and EPA based on the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The stipulated orders also provide a roadmap for providing improved water and sewer services in the CNMI.

Stipulated Order I requires CUC to create a new management and financial structure of all aspects of CUC's operations. It is related to CUC's inadequacy of providing potable drinking water and wastewater services.

Stipulated Order II involves the lack of infrastructure for safe fuel storage, handling and transfer facilities of the power generation facilities, and power distribution, including possible environmental site cleanup.

Because of CUC problems, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial declared a state of emergency for CUC in August 2008, suspending procurement regulations for the utilities firm to cope with emergency needs, among other things. He has since been extending the emergency declaration every month.

# Board of Regents take crash course on accreditation

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas College's Board of Regents were given a crash course on the institution's accreditation and history last Monday.

The training and overview session was conducted by NMC director of institutional effectiveness and accreditation liaison officer Galvin Deleon Guerrero.

Present in the seven-member body were chairwoman Janet King, vice chairwoman Paz Younis, and regent members Elaine Orilla and Frank Rabauliman.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that the purpose of the session was to provide an overview of the accreditation policies and the role of the Board of Regents at the college.

Among the topics covered in the special session were information about the junior and senior commission, roles of regents, history behind the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the institution's accreditation history.

The board, on the same occasion, also discussed ways to better address concerns of students, staff, and faculty to enhance the continuous improvement of the college.

Deleon Guerrero said the session was in response to the request of the board chairwoman.

"Accreditation standards actually require that regents be informed about and involved in the accreditation process. So, when the Board asked Interim President Cabrera to arrange for this training, I was more than happy to oblige as the college's accreditation liaison officer," Deleon Guerrero said, adding that he looks forward to the regents continuing more training that will help them become more familiar with and conversant in accreditation matters.

It was in 2007 when the college was placed on probation status after failing to satisfy all the team recommendations. A severe sanction of show cause was then issued in 2008 for the remaining concerns of the commission.

It was only in June 2009 when NMC reaffirmed its accreditation to four years and which is subject for midterm report and visit.

In the January assembly of the WASC, NMC's midterm report was accepted but warned that there are still "series" of events in the institution that may affect the accreditation.

Deleon Guerrero said participants in Monday's special training were very engaged in the presentation and asked a lot of insightful questions.

The regents, he said, are particularly impressed by the overview of the college accreditation history which stretches back to 1985.

"Overall, it was a great opportunity for the board to better understand its role in the accreditation process," Deleon Guerrero added.

In early interview with King, she emphasized that Board of Regents members should adhere to their appropriate roles and responsibilities as per board policy.

She said the board keeps up to date with the management of the college, but leaves the day-to-day administrative matters to the chief executive officer.

King also pointed out that the board has taken seriously a previous ACCJC recommendation not to micromanage and relies on the interim president as the chief administrator to operate the college in accordance with the policies and procedures of the governing board.

The board, she added, through regular reports on various processes continued to keep updates, but the details and decision making rest with the interim president.

Cabrera was named interim president after Dr. Carmen Fernandez was suspended on Jan. 12.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Northern Marianas College Accreditation Liaison Officer Galvin DL. Guerrero gave the institution's Board of Regents crash course on accreditation last Monday.


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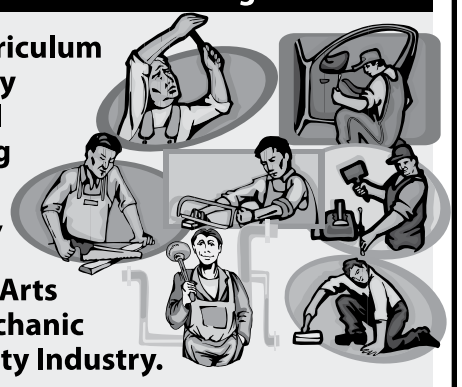

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# Munson dismisses claim of worker who filed discrimination suit vs World Resort

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court dismissed yesterday one of the claims of a then 49-year-old housekeeping staff of Saipan World Resort who sued the hotel after her contract was not renewed allegedly because of her age.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson granted World Corporation's motion to dismiss Lydia M. Caylan's intentional infliction of emotional distress claim.

World Corp. owns Saipan World Resort.

"The Court cannot conclude that, even if true, that the alleged discrimination and malicious language used against plaintiff goes 'beyond all possible bounds of decency' or can be regarded as 'atrocious, and utterly intolerable in a civilized community,'" the judge said.

Caylan, a Filipino, was employed as a housekeeper with Saipan World Resort beginning in 2005. After two years of employment, her contract was not renewed. As a result she lost her ability to legally remain in the Commonwealth under the CNMI immigration law.

In July 2009, Caylan filed a discrimination lawsuit against World Corp. She asked the court to order the defendant to pay her damages.

Caylan alleged that her manager told her that she was "getting old" and that he did not want old people working in his department.

World Corp., however, stated that plaintiff was not renewed because her work was "incomplete and inaccurate."

Caylan, through counsel Colin Thompson, filed the lawsuit asserting two causes of action: violation of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

World Corp., through counsel Glenn A. Jewell, moved to dismiss the intentional infliction of emotional distress claim.

In his order, Munson said a cause of action for intentional infliction of emotional distress claim requires, in part, proof that the conduct complained of was outrageous.

Munson said Caylan argues that the outrageousness of the alleged age discrimination is exacerbated by the fact that the conduct took place in a community where the population has a higher level of respect and reverence for the older generations.

In addition, the judge said, Caylan argues that the manager's position of power over her as her employer caused the conduct to be more outrageous and extreme and thus caused more harm.

"The Court does not agree that the alleged conduct rises to the level of extreme and outrageous conduct," Munson said.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Parents browse through the pages of books authored by students during the Young Authors' Book exhibit Tuesday night at San Vicente Elementary School.

# Hundreds of books featured at 2010 Young Authors Exhibit

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Parents and teachers beamed with pride after seeing hundreds of books authored by their children and students in the annual Young Authors Exhibit held at San Vicente Elementary School.

Principal Joaquina Salas was elated on the constant participation of the parents of the school's 669 students.

Every year, San Vicente holds the activity as part of the students' curriculum and in conjunction with the parent literacy month campaign held throughout February.

Although the event was non-competitive, the principal believes that the occasion brings greater reading awareness to both the students and their parents.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that for every class in each grade level, students were asked to write their own books and publications for the annual exhibit.

The school allowed numerous entries from both individual and group authors.

Salas described as overwhelming the turnout of the exhibit which aims to develop and enhance the students' reading and writing skills.

The principal said many of the books were offered by the students to their parents after Tuesday night's exhibit.

Meantime, those selected will be entered by the school in the Public School System-wide writing exhibit in April.

Salas said that it took the students some weeks to prepare and complete their own publications, which they were given freehand to select the best stories to write.

In the recently concluded activity, teachers believe that writing and reading skills were not the only skills enhanced but the students' learning in all content areas as well.

Besides the young authors' exhibit, public schools also conducted other activities to promote reading awareness. At Oleai Elementary School, government officials and community members joined in its campaign "Reading with the Stars" while other schools continuously hold reading sessions with students and their parents.

# 'Meet your policy maker' on Rota forum re-scheduled

The CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities Office is informing Rota's individuals with disabilities and their families and consumers that the "Meet Your Policy Maker" forum has been re-scheduled for April 9 from 9am to 2pm at the Round House.

For more information, contact CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities Office at 664-7000/7001/7002. ***(PR)***

# DYS postpones Family Fun Day

The Division of Youth Services' Family Fun Day scheduled for this Saturday, Feb. 27, has been postponed until further notice.

DYS said it will announce the new date of the event in a future date. ***(PR)***

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
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P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, | Civil Action No. 07-0177-CV |
| vs. | SECOND NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE |
| JOHN T. SABLAN, GLORIA DLG SABLAN, AND ANTONIO W. NEFAIKES, Defendants. | |

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on February 26, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 008 C 08, situated in Talofofo, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 9,621 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey Official Cadastral Plat No. 008 C 02, Commonwealth Recorder's Office File No. 04-1103.

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale will be held on March 16, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 14th day of January, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**
**ITB NO.: ITB10-DPS-070**

**SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 22, 2010** **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF SIX (6) LAPTOP COMPUTERS (RUGGED TABLE TOUGHBOOK MODEL) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY PROGRAM (MCSAP)"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDRALLY FUNDED PROJECT: AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**
**ITB NO.: ITB10-DPS-071 (A) (B)**

**SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 22, 2010** **TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF THREE (3) LASER SPEED DETECTORS WITH VIDEO CAMERA CAPABILITY (2-CIF-SAIPAN, 1-CIF-ROTA FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-POLICE TRAFFIC SECTION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDRALLY FUNDED PROJECT: AS SUCH, **LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE**, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**RFP10-DPW-058**

**SUBMISSION: MARCH 17, 2010** **TIME: 3:00 P.M.**

**"GROUNDWATER, LEACHATE AND GAS TESTING AT THE MARPI SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY (MSWF)"**

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

INTERESTED POPOSERS SHOULD SUBMIT ALL QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION IN WRITING TO NO LATER THAN **3:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME, MARCH 08, 2010** TO THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION BY FAX TO (670) 322-2762 OR EMAIL AT dpwsolidwaste@pticom.com.

**PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCED IS CLAIMED.**

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
ACTING SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

## TINIAN HOT PEPPER FESTIVAL

# A SIZZLING SUCCESS

This month's Tinian Hot Pepper Festival was a sizzling success, with a full schedule of live entertainment, games for all ages, and a record number of vendors selling local delicacies and products made from "donni sali," the internationally famous Chamorro hot pepper.

International visitors dotted the crowd of local revelers at the Feb. 13-14 event staged by the Marianas Visitors Authority at Tachogna Beach.

While a few brave and unsuspecting visitors tentatively sampled free "donni sali" samples, over a dozen participants joined the hot pepper eating contest, with Jack Cangco and Sylvia Biz emerging as the first male and female finishers, respectively. Out of seven entries, bragging rights for the best "estafao pika" (a Chamorro chicken dish laced with hot pepper) went to Rommel Lozada.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bright and spicy bottles of "donni sali" beckon to customers from island-style booths at the Tinian Hot Pepper Festival held on Feb. 13-14, 2010.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dancers share the many festive colors and cultures of people that call Tinian home.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Festival goers pose for a photo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Visitors to Tinian capture a few memories at the Tinian Hot Pepper Festival held on Feb. 13-14, 2010.

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, left, and Marianas Visitors Authority Managing Director Perry Tenorio standby to welcome the crowd at the 2010 Tinian Hot Pepper Festival held on Feb. 13-14 at Tachogna Beach, Tinian.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Free samples of "donni sali" tempt revelers at the Tinian Hot Pepper Festival.

"The Tinian community has been really excited to celebrate the festival with our visitors, especially to share our culture and 'donni sali' with those who are new to the island," said MVA Tinian representative Vida Borja.

Youngsters—and their parents—watched with high hopes as their "umang" (hermit crabs) raced down three-yard shoots to the finish line. A few crabs declined to participate and stayed in their shells, while other renegades climbed the sides of their shoots in an attempt to escape.

The crowd cheered six teams of sack racers that barreled around the 80m course with big smiles that only seem to get wider when they tripped and fell to the ground.

The dragon boat race attracted six teams in three heats at the Tachogna Beach venue, including one manned by Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz's team Ugám (Chamorro for red betel nut). Much to the crowd's amusement, a number of the boats failed to keep a straight course, including one boat that rowed in three circles before even making it to the starting buoy. JC Café paddled their way to another straight victory in the annual race.

Couples of all ages and ability levels joined the cha-cha dance contest, with Elvira Morgan and Carol Masga cha-cha-ing away with the title. This year's karaoke title was awarded to Chloe Hofschneider for her rendition of "Because You Love Me."

"The Tinian Hot Pepper Festival is a great opportunity for us to showcase some of the unique attractions of the Northern Marianas. On Tinian, those features include the internationally famous 'donni sali," the friendliness of the community, and the beauty of the island," said MVA Managing Director Perry Tenorio. "We look forward to the continued growth and expansion of the festival."

The Tinian Hot Pepper Festival is held each February in the Northern Mariana Islands. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
**Office of Vocational Rehabilitation**
PO Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950, TEL.: (670) 322-6537/8 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY (670) 322-6449 EMAIL: voc.rehab@saipan.com

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The staff of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation will have a Wellness and Rehabilitation Day on Friday, February 26th, 2010 from 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Services for this particular day will be temporarily halted until Monday March 1, 2010. For any urgencies please call 287-6538.

Thank you for your full support and understanding.

/s/ Margarita R. Olopai-Taitano
OVR Director

*This announcement is paid for by federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (OSERS).*

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**
**PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM**
PO BOX 501370
SAIPAN, MP 96950

## Head Start Policy Council Agenda

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a special meeting on February 26, 2010 (Friday) from 4:00pm-7:00pm, Tanapag Head Start Center Resource Room, Saipan.

**I. Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Quorum
4. Adoption of Agenda

**II. New Business**
1. Action Item:
   a. Approval of SY 2010-2011 Calendar
   b. Approval of Recommendations to Hire
   c. Approval of Head Start Expansion Grant Application
   d. Approval of Community Partnership Memorandum of Agreement

**III. Executive Session**
**IV. Next Meeting**
**V. Adjournment**

*Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. Public Comments are limited to 15 minutes; therefore comments are limited to 3 minutes each.*

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Ms. Candace Q. Celis at 664-3761.

/s/ Ms. Malou Ernest
Acting Chairperson

## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 6:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Bldg., Saipan

**A. Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
5. Communications

**B. Reports**
1. Chairman
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Administrator
5. Committees
6. Legal Counsel

**C. Public Comments**

**D. Permits/ Applications/ Rezones: review and decide.**
1. Conditional Use application #2010-0389 – Saipan American Education Foundation School, portion of Lot EA 109-New-1-1, 109-New-1-R1 (Chalan Kiya)

**E. Old Business.**
1. Proposed amendments to Saipan Zoning Law of 2008
   a. Update on proposed amendments to the 2008 Saipan Zoning Law (Presentation; no action)

**F. New Business.**
1. Update on Zoning Enforcement Activities
2. Update on Board's Public Outreach Program
3. Procedures and implementation of the Junk Cars Removal program

**G. Executive (Closed) Session** - Consult with Legal Counsel regarding pending or anticipated legal matters

**H. Miscellaneous:** Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese Ogumoro, Acting Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chair, Zoning Board

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Construction workers continue their work yesterday at the site where the Round House in San Vicente used to be located. A traffic light will be installed at the intersection, while a sidewalk will be built as part of phase 1 of the Cross Island Road Project.

# Phase 1 of Cross Island Road Project on target

## » DPW, contractor want to finish on time to minimize effects to SVES

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Construction of phase 1 of the Cross Island Road Project has been doing well as the Department of Public Works and the contractor want to make sure that they can complete the project on time particularly at the San Vicente Elementary School area, according to acting DPW Secretary Martin C. Sablan yesterday.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Sablan said the ongoing expansion of the highway, which began last month, is along a major traffic intersection at the old Round House.

He said they are doing their best to meet the target deadline in the middle part of March to finish that particular road.

"For this particular road it's important that we get complete because of the school. That's why we have to go from that connection of the four-lane highway up to Nang Ocha Road," the acting Secretary said.

Under the federally funded Cross Island Road Project, a new four-lane highway will be built from San Vicente to Capital Hill.

Phase 1 has a budget of $9.2 million, 100 percent coming from federal highway grant, according to DPW in earlier press statement.

Phase 1 will begin from Asin Market in San Vicente to Blue Tank in Papago.

Under Phase 1, two miles or 15,500 feet of paved highway will be constructed. The project includes excavation and backfilling, constructing sub-base courses, laying hot asphalt concrete pavement with dense graded anti-skid pavement, pavement markings, shoulders, drainage facilities, and driveway connections. Traffic signal light will also be installed.

Sablan said the construction has affected San Vicente School as far as the school's parking at the picking up and dropping points.

Sablan said the contractor Hawaiian Rock is assisting the traffic flow near the school by assigning workers as traffic control.

"That's why we want to proceed on this particular site of the construction of phase 1 to finish it to minimize the flow of traffic in that particular area," he said.

The acting secretary said a traffic light will be built at the old Round House.

He said a sidewalk will be constructed from that area all the way to the softball field located at the right side of the school.

# Retirement association meeting tonight

The Commonwealth Retirement Association has scheduled a general membership meeting today, Feb. 25, 6pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The meeting was set after the association recently learned that Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo has scheduled a status conference on Feb. 26, 9am.

Roger Ludwick also recently filed in Superior Court a complaint for a declaratory order regarding the legislative appropriation requirement with respect to paying judgments.

In today's meeting, the association hopes to hear Mario Taitano present his case against Merrill Lynch, Richard Waldo talk about the pros and cons of receivership; a membership registration drive by David Sablan, possible by-laws amendments; IAC Life insurance re-enrollment opportunity; and a Public School System presentation for retirees teaching as substitute teachers.

The group will also hear from NMI Retirement Fund Administrator Mark Aguon and Board of Trustees chairman Sixto Igisomar on agency activities affecting members. ***(PR)***

# ABTC to conduct compliance check operations tomorrow

The Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Control Division will conduct compliance check operations tomorrow, Feb. 26, from 6pm to 12am.

This operation will be a joint effort among the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Task Force consisting of law enforcement officers from the Department of Public Safety, the ABTC Division, the Division of Youth Services, and the Attorney General's Office.

The EUDL Task Force will be conducting random compliance checks on all merchant retailers of alcoholic beverages. The purpose of this operation is to ensure that licensed establishments are in compliance with CNMI underage drinking laws.

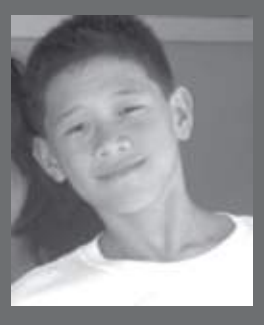
"The task force would like to thank everyone for their support and cooperation in these efforts. We aim to keep our youth and community safe. All violators will be dealt with in accordance with applicable CNMI laws," the statement from ABTC read.

To report a violation of the underage drinking laws, contact the ABTC-EUDL Hotline at 483-1821.

The EUDL Task Force programs are made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. ***(PR)***

## BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Belated happy birthday to Jacqueline D. Lizama, who celebrated her birthday last Feb. 24.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Advance happy birthday to Shane D. Deleon Guerrero (Feb. 26) and Jerome V. Reyes Jr. (Feb. 27). Greetings from your loving family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Advance happy birthday to Ikeesha D. Aquiningoc who will celebrate her special day on March 5.

# Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### Feb. 26, 1999

**Cash-tight CPA hikes fees**
The Commonwealth Ports Authority will increase fees on fuel flowage, and use of incinerator, implement parking fee as well as seek the immediate return of some 58,000 sq. m. of public land to the agency as additional sources of revenue. These would provide the ports authority some $1.2 million in income for one year, said Carlos H. Salas, executive director. Such measures are to be carried out by the financially troubled ports authority in a move to save its operation and pay for its financial obligations. Furthermore, the ports authority will encourage employees who are eligible to retire to avail of the early retirement program to reduce contribution on the Retirement Fund, impose more restrictions on the use of cellular phones and government vehicle.

**Kara thumbs down raise for DPH counsel**
The contract of the legal counsel for the Department of Public Health has been thrown into a controversy after the Attorney General's Office decided against granting a salary increase, a decision that has caught the ire of a senator. Acting chief government lawyer Maya B. Kara told reporters yesterday the office could not grant the request of Celeste Andersen, assistant attorney general, because of the current financial situation of the CNMI government. But a source, who requested anonymity, said it was likely Kara chose not to renew her contract because of personal differences, claiming Andersen was not part of the circle within the AGO.

### Feb. 26, 2001

**Tests confirm fuel leak at Saipan airport**
Soil samples taken from areas near Saipan International Airport disclosed fuel vapor contamination which warrants immediate implementation of extensive clean-up operations. Private solid and hazardous waste management firm, Allied Pacific Environmental Consulting uncovered evidence of "subsurface" contamination following the comprehensive water and soil testing analysis. APEC environmental scientist C. Thomas Polevich said cleanup operations can now be implemented as construction of special extraction wells begun to pull the contaminants to the surface.

**Teno keeps hands off on Wiseman's appointment**
Amid allegations of bribery on Superior Court associate judge appointee David A. Wiseman, the administration will take a hands-off policy to allow the Legislature to decide on its own. In an interview with reporters, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio disclosed that no plans has been laid out to help Mr. Wiseman get out of the barrage of accusations hurled against him. In fact, the governor is giving the Senate Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigation Committee a free hand to determine the culpability of the lawyer on bribery assaults filed against him.

### Feb. 26, 2002

**MVA to cultivate China market**
The Marianas Visitors Authority vowed to give its full attention to China in hopes to cultivate a new segment of tourist market in the Northern Marianas amid the slowdown of the Japan economy. MVA Board Chair Dave M. Sablan on Friday said three major points would be discussed during the scheduled board meeting of the tourism agency this week, including funding assistance for an effective marketing tool in China. This, following confirmation from Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino executives who visited him Friday that an official agreement had been reached between the hotel management and the China Southern Air on direct charter flights from Guangzhou, China, to Saipan starting April.

**Shoring up the garment industry in the NMI**
In 1999 alone, the apparel manufacturing industry in the CNMI contributed $72.8 million to the government's coffers, or about 34 percent of the government's $216 million revenues for that year. Since 48 percent of all government revenue is spent on personnel alone, that $72.8 million was enough to pay for the salaries of 1,680 government workers. These were just two of the benefits that the Commonwealth gets from the garment industry that were cited by members of the Saipan Garment Manufacturing Association during a presentation to members of the 13th Legislature last week.

# Insular area leaders meet federal officials in DC

**WASHINGTON, DC**— American Samoa Gov. Togiola Tulafono, Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho, Guam Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo, and CNMI Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan conferred with about 50 federal officials at the annual Interagency Group on Insular Affairs meeting.

The IGIA, begun during the Clinton Administration, is designed to use the firepower of the White House to pull in high level Executive Branch officials to address the problems most important to the U.S. insular areas. Co-chairs of the IGIA are Cecilia Muñoz, the President's Special Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs, and Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar. Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Anthony M. Babauta sat in for Salazar at yesterday's event at the Interior Department.

Sablan raised several issues at the meeting including the continuing lack of sufficient outreach by the U.S. Department of Labor during the immigration transition period in the Northern Marianas. But Sablan lauded the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security for keeping people in the NMI informed during the transition.

Sablan also spoke about problems with President Obama's healthcare proposals, released yesterday, which do not fully address the needs of people in the U.S. insular areas. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Interior Department Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Anthony M. Babauta, Chairwoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU), Guam Gov. Carlos Camacho, Cecilia Muñoz, Special Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs, and Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (D-MP) met with a host of federal officials at the Interior Department in Washington Tuesday for the annual Interagency Group on Insular Affairs.

# Tools to use against 'sugar bugs'

**By OLGA SHAKALOVA, BS, Registered Dental Hygienist**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The most important time to prevent dental disease is from birth through childhood. It is the time when both sets of teeth are formed and erupt. Then it is crucial for parents to take necessary steps to protect their child's teeth so that the child marches through life with a healthy oral environment. Everyone knows major ways to maintain oral health: brush, floss, and rinse. For children however, those steps are not enough.

One of these steps is sealants. Sealants made of very durable dental material and they are put over a tooth to prevent bacteria entering that tooth's groves and thus cause tooth decay. Sealants last for a long time and save many problems down the road.

The most important teeth to place sealants on are permanent molars. Those are the teeth we chew with. They are located in the back of our mouths and look big and boxy. The first molars are out around 6 years of age, and thus called "6 year molars". The next molars come around 12 years old (+/- a year). Parents should be aware of those times to take their child to the dental office.

In addition to sealants, proper dietary habits are an important step to protect children's' teeth.

Meals should be limited to three a day. Tooth decay bacteria live and thrive in an acidic environment, which is created by eating almost any food. For that the more time is in the mouth with no food the more neutral pH is restored.

Snacking should be also reduced to 1-2 a day. Reduce candy, especially hard sugar containing ones to special occasions and only with meal time. Many soft foods like raisons, caramel containing candy bars, dry fruit; even bananas stick to teeth and stay in oral cavity for hours promoting acidity. Give to your kids nuts, apples, oranges and even salary sticks w/peanut butter for snacks.

With good dietary habits and sealants your child is better equipped to fight off the 'the sugar bugs'. There is one more recommendation however: fluoride supplement. Fluoride is naturally occurring element that prevents bacteria from harmful actions. Many foods contain fluoride but it is not enough to sustain healthy oral environment some times. That is why during the early childhood all the way to the age of 16 it is important to supplement children with additional fluoride intake. Fluoride is prescribed by a dentist as chewable tablets and often referred as tooth vitamins. Come to any dental office for a visit and ask to receive a fluoride prescription.

In addition to prescription tablets, purchase only fluoride containing toothpastes for your children. The longer a child brushes with it the better the effect of fluoride is. The ideal regimen for brushing is twice a day, once in the morning for two minutes, and once before bed time for two minutes or longer. Starting 9-10 years of age kids can learn flossing. Removing plaque between teeth is as crucial brushing teeth.

Whatever you decide to do for your child it is going to be more beneficial than no action. When children grow up they appreciate better smile, confidence that comes with it and most importantly oral health. And you as a parent have the power to give those important aspects of one's life. You are the one who decide to pick up the tools and fight the "sugar bugs."

**Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana**
**Ofisinan I Gubietno**
**Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku**

**NOTISIA POT PRINIPONEN ATKILON TANU PUBLIKU**

Segun i lai Publiku 15-2, Seksiona 106, i Depattamention Tanu Publiku ha notitisia todus ni intension para ma-atkilan tanu publiku gi Lower Base, Saipan. Libre i publiku muna` halom hafa hinassoña nu este na planu.

i. I tanu gaige gi Lot No. 038 E 02 ya i minedoñg 6,800 metru kuatdrau, poku mas o`menus. Guaha kopian este na lugat gi Depattamention Tanu para haye malagu umina.

ii. I para u fan atkila i Success International Corporation ni ineluluye as Señor Guo Jun Miao. Guiya lokue sekretariu yan treasurarion i kompania.

iii. I mapropopone na atkilon manegosiu as Señor Miao.

iv. I lugat para bisnis man-areglan kareta yan man-mueba tumobit 24 oras diariamente. I tetminon atkilon para 25 años na tiempu ya siña lokue ma-ekstende para otru 15 años. I tutat atkilon gaige gi pot sientu gi ma-katkula ni marehistra na kompanian man-ebaluan balin tanu.

v. I kopian kontratan atkilon gaige gi Depattamention Tanu gi Joeten Building, Dandan, Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luta; yan primet bibienda gi Kings Commercial Bldg. giya Tinian.

vi. I Depattamenton Tanu taya renisibiña kabales na propositu pot atkilon i lugat ni gaige guine na anunsiu.

vii. I Sekcretariun Depattamenton Tanu siña ha resibe nina halum publiku pot este priniponen atkilon, fabot `sino kinentra, antes `sino Måtso ida 8, 2010 gi katkuet offinan tanu giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

**ARONGORONGOL REEL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP**

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) mellól alléghúl toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Teel faluwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghiyegh, aweewe, reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap me bwal Alléghúl Toualp ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatéélló.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap nge ekke bwáári Lot No 038 E 02, eyoor olangaras walabwughúw (6,800) square meters, elapeló ngáre eghús, elo Lower Base, Seipél. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngáre óubwe ghuleey fischi.

ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Success International Corporation, CNMI Corporation. Samwoolul Corporation nge Guo Jun Miao.

Samwoolul Treasurer/Sekkeretoria nge Guo Jun Miao.

Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Mr. Guo Jun Miao.

iv. Schóól akkilon ebwe ayoora me mwóghutáágheli fasilidóód fengál me leliyel ffééról ghareeta. 24-hours reel towing service shop, me akkááw angaangal.

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge ebwe reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years) me emmwel ebwe sóbwusóbw ngáli bwal seigh me limwoow ráágh (15 yrs)

Pomwol akkilon yeel llól alongal ráágh nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (value of the property) me bwal meeta kka e akkayú llól bwuleey yeel.

v. Tilighial akkilon yeel nge emmwel óubwe bwughi mereel bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llól Tuturam, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commerial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwo (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchuluyol.

vi. Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye elo Lower Base, Seipel.

vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng kkaal, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal Mááilap 8, 2010 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta me ngáre Tchúlúyól.

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND**

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 038 E 02, containing an area of approximately 6,800 square meters, more or less, situated in Lower Base, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Success International Corporation, a CNMI Corporation. The Director of the Corporation is Guo Jun Miao.

The President/Secretary/Treasurer of the Corporation is Guo Jun Miao.

iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Guo Jun Miao.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and managing a facility with a complete automobile repair shop, 24-hour towing service shop, and related operations.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property, including existing structure(s).

v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Lower Base, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before March 8, 2010 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

# Opinion

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## EDITORIAL

## The torture memos: No punishment for their authors, but no exoneration

Jay S. Bybee was head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel and John C. Yoo was his deputy in 2002 when the CIA asked for a review of the legality of certain interrogation techniques for detainees. The circumstances could not have been more charged: Barely seven months after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, chatter about a forthcoming assault on American soil or on U.S. interests abroad was high.

Mr. Bybee and Mr. Yoo approved a roster of techniques that included waterboarding and prolonged sleep deprivation. They asserted that interrogators would be on solid legal ground unless they acted with "specific intent" to inflict "severe pain," which they defined as pain equivalent to "death, organ failure or serious impairment of bodily functions." They also made the breathtaking argument—later repudiated by a successor in the Bush Justice Department—that the president, as commander in chief during a time of war, was essentially unconstrained by law in ordering measures he deemed necessary to protect the country.

Some seven years later, Mr. Bybee, now a federal appeals court judge, and Mr. Yoo, a law professor, have been cleared of charges of professional misconduct. It is the right decision. David Margolis, the Justice Department veteran who reviewed the matter, correctly and courageously overturned a skewed recommendation by the department's Office of Professional Responsibility that the lawyers be referred to their respective bar associations for disciplinary action. Mr. Margolis noted that the lawyers acted in "good faith" under extremely difficult circumstances and with the benefit of several court decisions that could be read to support their approach. "Different lawyers answering previously undecided legal questions often will produce different answers," Mr. Margolis wrote.

Yet Mr. Margolis also made clear that Mr. Bybee and Mr. Yoo at virtually every turn argued for the most extreme application of executive power—a particular obsession of Mr. Yoo's—and interpreted anti-torture provisions in the narrowest way possible. They failed to fully air arguments that cut the other way. Their work shows how quickly matters can go awry when ideology and fear drive decision-making during a crisis. The chances for profound mistakes are compounded when the executive branch employs extreme secrecy and fails to fully brief lawmakers. In the event, lawyers provided cover for reprehensible and abusive techniques that stained the country's reputation and diminished its moral standing in the world.

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## Herding people

**By RIK and JANEL VILLEGAS**
*Special to the* Saipan Tribune

*Rik is a business instructor at NMC and Janel is a partner with BizResults, LLC (www.bizresults.org). They can be contacted at biz_results@yahoo.com.*

On one of those long flights to the mainland, I watched a movie that was boring, yet insightful. In "A Dog Year," author Jon Katz chronicles his struggle to rehabilitate a border collie that was sent to him by a reader. Katz himself is struggling with mid-life crisis issues which have led to the estrangement from his supportive wife and daughter. His efforts to deal with the hang-ups of his well-bred but high-strung dog he calls Devon, eventually cause him to confront his own problems.

Border collies have been specifically bred over the past 200 years to be natural herders of sheep and cattle. Their strong instinct to herd is a modified version of the killing instinct found in wolves, but it has been toned down through selective breeding. Most other herding dogs drive the livestock away from their handler; whereas, the border collie instinctually circles the livestock before herding them back from the far end of the flock. They tend not to use force to get sheep or cattle to comply with their directions. However, they will use an escalating series of nonphysical activities to move uncooperative animals before resorting to biting to get their point across.

As Katz struggles to train and understand this hyperactive animal, he ends up moving to a rural area and renting a farmhouse. There, he meets a dog trainer who understands people about as much as she does dogs. She demonstrates the proper behavior of a well-trained border collie by letting some sheep out of their corral and then giving a brief but well understood command to her dog to gather the sheep. The dog circles the sheep until they are in a tight group and then he positions himself at the far end to begin moving them back toward the corral. The dog only needs to crouch down and give "the eye" in order to get them moving in the desired direction. The dog also moves quickly from side-to-side and gives subtle guidance to keep the sheep progressing in the right direction. Any uncooperative sheep are given more personalized treatment or a nip on the heels if needed. Eventually, the sheep move in an organized and tight-knit group back to the corral.

Now that the ideal model has been demonstrated, it was time for Devon to show his ability to successfully gather the sheep toward a designated area. When the sheep are turned back out to pasture, Devon is released and he makes a mad dash into the middle of the flock while barking and biting the frenetic animals. As the sheep scatter, Katz is frantically waving and yelling at his unresponsive dog. Katz, Devon, and the sheep are confused and don't know what to do. As the dog continues barking orders while running around recklessly, the sheep divide into smaller factions, which make it even more difficult to get unity and cooperation. Eventually, Devon loses complete control of the flock and the other dog has to be called in to take over and bring order back to the sheep. Once order is established, the sheep are easily herded back into the corral.

As I watched the movie, I realized that there are some parallels between a dog who is a good sheepherder and a person who is a good supervisor. There are also lessons that could be learned from the poor leadership style of Devon. First, in order to lead people, one must know where to go, and then communicate the direction clearly to others. This can come from having a clearly established goal.

Second, unity needs to be established so everyone is working together. Quietly "circling the herd" allows everyone to know who is in charge without being intimidating, and it helps bring everyone together before communicating the desired direction. Running into the herd while barking orders and threatening people can quickly establish you as the Alpha dog, but it can also create an environment of fear and resentment that causes people to divide into factions. If uncontrolled, these factions can create infighting and a power struggle. Many of the people will simply leave the "herd" and find another flock to work with.

Next, provide clear guidance and direction without being overbearing. Stay within sight while you allow others to make decisions on their own that will move them toward the goal. Provide escalating levels of direction that are appropriate to help people stay on target. Be prepared, when necessary, to give a "nip on the heel" to those who stray away from established policies or procedures.

Finally, stay focused on the goal or outcome and make adjustments if the group strays off in the wrong direction. Be flexible, without losing control so that you maintain respect from those you lead. If others feel you don't know where you are going, or feel you lack the ability to lead them, then it becomes even more difficult to gain their confidence.

Although herding people may be practiced in many organizations, a good supervisor leads those they are in charge of by achieving goals through subtle guidance that gains the cooperative support of others and leads the company to the final destination.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# The diplomacy of harmony

**By JAIME VERGARA**
*Special to the* Saipan Tribune

*Regular Opinion page contributor Jaime R. Vergara joined the Beijing-Saipan inaugural flight late January and has sent reports of interest to the CNMI from locations in China where current CNMI residents are from.*

Alfred Pangelinan of San Vicente counsels our island's conduct toward "harmony for sake of common good." Former *Saipan Tribune* publisher and militant avatar of indigenous peoplehood John S. DelRosario, Jr., writes in one of his numerous take on the current Article XII controversy: "I seek harmony in granting to the sons and daughters of these isles what's rightfully theirs. . ."

"Harmony" in international relations was Obama's line to China on his last visit to the heartland of Asia, perhaps, cognizant of the fact that the quiet but stated vision of the current leader at the helm of the People's Republic of China is toward a practical "Harmonious Society," a vision of continuing economic growth tempered by societal balance and harmony.

Following on the footsteps of his predecessor Jiang Zemin, who pursued economic growth to create a broad middle class base, Hu goes a step further and highlights the benefits that need to accrue to the lower economic rung of Chinese society, those living beyond the pale of the coastal regions by the China Sea.

Born Jiangsu in '42 and listed as native to Jixi, Anhui province to a family who once ran a tea trading shop, with Japan's occupation of Manchuria and east central China, Hu's family was brought to its economic knees. Orphaned at seven, he was raised by an aunt; his father was denounced during the Cultural Revolution, and Hu himself was "driven to volunteer" out of Beijing's Tsinghua University to Gansu to apply his hydraulic engineering degree in the construction of a Hydro-Power Station.

Not being a member of the Shanghai 'mafia' of the Communist Party, Hu's meteoric rise to leadership included stints in Guizhou (south of Sichuan, and north of Yunnan) and Xizang (Tibet) – the hinterlands, where he honed his skills at resolving conflict through peaceful means. In the '60s, Hu followed Buddhism, even preaching the Buddhist principle in Tibet for three years.

In any case, his heart appears to be more aligned with the aspirations of peasants and workers, minorities and the marginalized, than the urban concrete cliff-dwelling apparatchiks of Beijing, Chungking, Shanghai and Guangzhou that the inclusiveness of his harmonious society vision might actually be more faithful to CCP's traditional base of students, peasants, workers, and youth.

Hu Jintao showed his proletarian color when he and his wife visited the Haixi economic zone across the Taiwan Straits over the Lunar New Year. They spent some time with migrant workers from the interior of China at the Xiang'an Tunnel in Xiamen, Fujian Province, thanking the workers for staying over the Spring Festival holidays, forsaking relations during this traditional apex of family celebrations, to complete work of the first undersea tunnel in China.

Hu had earlier included in the CP and State Constitutions of 2007 and 2008 his scientific development concept, which turned Deng Xiaopeng and Jiang Zimen's *revolutionary* party to become a *ruling* party moving at a less turbulent evolutionary pace. At Xiamen, the genial paramount ruling leader comported with compatriots from Taiwan, recognizing the cross-Straits trade conducted through ferry rides between Fujian and Taiwan, and encouraging Xiamen and its environs to develop its natural resources and offshore islands to the tourism requirements of the country.

In a surprise move, China recently approved its first gaming license in Hainan; this after Singapore quietly opened its city to two Casinos to serve the southeast Asian market, *Aomen* (Macau) and the Philippines continuing to attract Guangzhou and *Xiang Gang* (Hong Kong) gamers, and the CNMI desperately going after, heretofore, Guangzhou-Shanghai-Beijing high rollers.

*In any case, his heart appears to be more aligned with the aspirations of peasants and workers, minorities and the marginalized, than the urban concrete cliff-dwelling apparatchiks of Beijing, Chungking, Shanghai and Guangzhou that the inclusiveness of his harmonious society vision might actually be more faithful to CCP's traditional base of students, peasants, workers, and youth.*

There is a reclaiming of the rich cultural heritage in Confucianism, evident in the resuscitation of the wandering thinker *Kung Zi* from Qufu in Shandong Province, condemned by Mao Zedong in his protest against the imperial merit system calcified by the mandarin literati, and now revived in a movie that features no less than acclaimed Hong Kong movie artist Chow Yun Fat and Chinese cinema darling Zhou Xun, in the lead roles. The movie might not be a blockbuster (it is actually boring considering the high profile lead roles of bad-ass Chow and eternal lotus flower Zhou) but the principles of socialism, democracy and social harmony, Hu's stated principles for the harmonious society, are themes that run through the movie.

This brings us back to China's diplomacy advocating harmony between countries and people. At a time when China-U.S. relations is deeply intertwined by virtue of mutual need rather than good feelings (U.S. consumers need Chinese products, Chinese need to buy treasury bills to maintain value of its dollar holdings) and where the matter of face on one side is responded to by in-your-face on the other, and the yin-yang complimentary dualism guides one side against contradictional dualism on the other, and we have the making of history repeating itself along the wreckages by the roadways of Khrushchev's *'peaceful coexistence,'* the *'third world* non-aligned nations, NAM' of the fabulous five - Sukarno, Nehru, Nkrumah, Nasser, Tito, Kissinger's *'détente,'* and Gorbachev's *'glasnost/perestroika.'*

External U.S. actuations that irritate China include the arms sale to Taiwan, the Dalai Lama at the White House, Obama's push for the CN¥ to be on a floating rate, and the intemperate comments of official spokespersons on stuff like Google China, et al. Sun Tzu's followers are, however, clear that one never puts one's adversary in a corner where one cannot escape, so the yin-yang *yang ge* (dance) will be performed along the Chiang Jiang and the Huang He rivers awhile!

"The bird that sticks its head out get shot," is one of Hu Jintao's preferred saying from an ancient Sage that served his survival skills in Beijing's political world well. "To disagree without being disagreeable," might be ours. Assessing others for what they do rather than what they say may just get us to harmonious living.

## Letters to the Editor

# Monumental decision

Some worry about where the Marianas Trench Marine Monument visitors will be located, and while we were honored and delighted with its designation, CNMI citizens have more important societal issues.

Descendants of African slaves endured voting restrictions and jury box discrimination in southern states until the late 20th century. Native Americans, Jews, women, and others faced different degrees of racism.

The CNMI has an international reputation for discrimination and nepotism uncharacteristic of our inhabitants.

This pattern of nepotism and incompetence in governance was recently advanced by Rep. Sablan's assertion that the new federal judge should be based on race. This is a political vote-garnering strategy that targets NMD voters.

Some support a Filipino-American judge based on our population demographics, but no one should receive a race-based appointment in America. The decent citizens of the Commonwealth deserve an unbiased person of merit and integrity.

Kilili, the governor, and I don't have the legal acumen to select a federal judge, and the people here disserve the most qualified candidate regardless of race, color, creed, religion, and gender. We must promote the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands as a land of justice and the rule of law.

**Ron Hodges**
*Via e-mail*

# Stopping the next John Yoo

**By BRUCE ACKERMAN**
*Special to* The Washington Post

*The writer is a professor of law at Yale University.*

During the long years that the Justice Department was investigating Jay S. Bybee and John C. Yoo, it was tempting to view the torture memos as if they were momentary aberrations in the life of the modern presidency. But in clearing the Bush administration lawyers who authored the memos of all charges of unprofessional conduct, the department invites future John Yoos to rubber-stamp future presidential abuses at moments of (real or imagined) crisis.

The torture memos are an entirely predictable product of an institutional set-up that puts the meaning of national security law at the mercy of a politicized Office of Legal Counsel and a super-politicized legal staff in the White House. There is a compelling need to reform that structure.

Forty years ago, the Office of Legal Counsel was dominated by career lawyers. But by the time George W. Bush was elected, the office had only a handful of seasoned professionals, and all the leading positions were held by political appointees who, like Bybee and Yoo, were predisposed to support their president.

Given this political transformation, the exoneration of Bybee and Yoo creates a dangerous precedent. Consider the department's discussion of the torture memo's claim that the president, as commander in chief, can defy Congress's statutory prohibition on torture and order the military or CIA to engage in any and all forms of abuse. The department concedes that Bybee and Yoo presented an "incomplete and one-sided" argument in support of this remarkable legal conclusion and that the next head of the OLC, Jack Goldsmith, found that this claim had "no foundation in prior OLC opinions, or in judicial decisions, or in any other source of law."

Nevertheless, the department found that Bybee and Yoo acted professionally in writing their defense of unchecked presidential power. In reaching this conclusion, it relied principally on two facts: first, that other political appointees in the Bush OLC also believed that presidential torture raised "complicated questions," and, second, that the White House was demanding a quick decision. Future Yoos will take notice and perhaps line up a few office mates to agree with extremist legal positions before issuing their memos during the next crisis.

Sometimes the OLC will resist presidential overreaching. But James Madison warned us that "enlightened statesmen will not always be at the helm." And it is not at all certain whether OLC lawyers may resist unreasonable claims down the line.

The Constitution requires the president to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed." He is not free to create a system in which his lawyers have powerful incentives to subordinate the law to short-term political imperatives. Since this is precisely the current situation, the president and Congress have a constitutional obligation to establish an institutional framework that will keep future John Yoos under control.

In coming weeks, Congress should do more than call Bybee and Yoo to testify. Lawmakers should work with President Obama to create an executive tribunal that will ensure the integrity of the rule of law. Members of the tribunal will operate as judges for the executive branch, not as lawyers for the sitting president. There will be nine judges on the panel, each serving staggered 12-year terms, giving the president the chance to nominate three judges during a four-year period. Nominees must gain Senate confirmation — which will encourage the president to nominate candidates with reputations as fair-minded professionals, not legal ideologues.

Committees of the House or Senate would have the right to challenge presidential actions before the tribunal. And after hearing both sides of an argument, the nine-judge panel would lay down the law for the executive branch.

At a later point, a private party might also gain standing to challenge the same presidential action before the Supreme Court — and if it decides to take the case, as the nation's highest arbiter, the court would be free to overrule the tribunal. But if history is any guide, the Supreme Court will intervene on national security matters only rarely. In the meantime, the executive tribunal will assure Americans that their freedoms are no longer at the tender mercies of the Yoos of the world.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. | Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. |
| ▲85° ▼75° | ▲84° ▼74° | ▲84° ▼73° | ▲85° ▼72° | ▲86° ▼74° |

## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Showers | ▲83 | ▼73 |
| Palau | Sunny | ▲89 | ▼77 |
| Yap | Sunny | ▲88 | ▼76 |
| Chuuk | Sunny | ▲89 | ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Sunny | ▲87 | ▼74 |
| Kosrae | Mostly Sunny | ▲88 | ▼74 |
| Majuro | Partly Sunny | ▲86 | ▼78 |

## Around The Globe

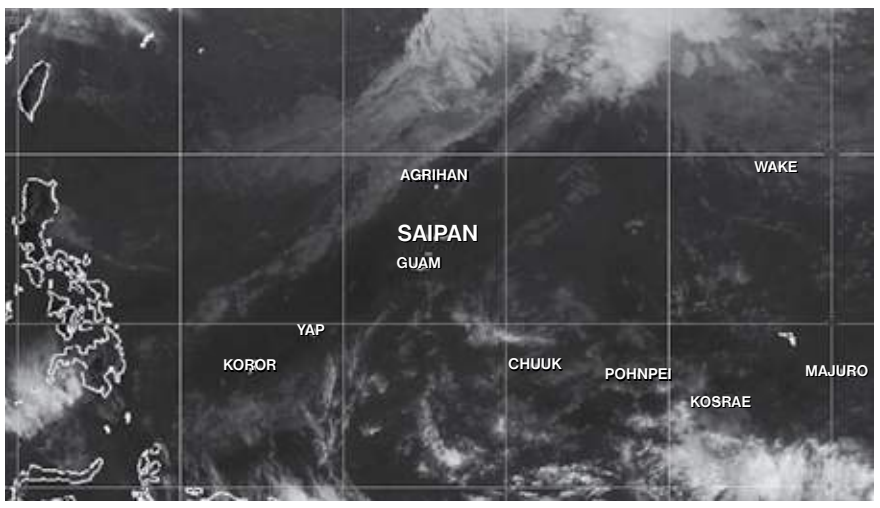
| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Rain | ▲70 | ▼59 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲44 | ▼27 |
| Hong Kong | Partly Sunny | ▲81 | ▼75 |
| Honolulu | Mostly Sunny | ▲79 | ▼71 |
| London | Cloudy | ▲46 | ▼39 |
| Los Angeles | Mostly Sunny | ▲68 | ▼52 |
| Manila | Sunny | ▲88 | ▼74 |
| Melbourne | Sunny | ▲81 | ▼57 |
| Miami | Mostly Sunny | ▲65 | ▼47 |
| New York | Rain/Snow | ▲36 | ▼30 |
| Osaka | Dreary | ▲61 | ▼52 |
| Paris | Rain | ▲48 | ▼47 |
| Pusan | Showers | ▲58 | ▼50 |
| Rome | Partly Sunny | ▲61 | ▼45 |
| Salem | Mostly Cloudy | ▲54 | ▼38 |
| San Francisco | Partly Sunny | ▲60 | ▼54 |
| Seoul | Rain | ▲55 | ▼32 |
| Tokyo | Mostly Sunny | ▲63 | ▼46 |
| Washington, DC | Flurries | ▲42 | ▼26 |

## Tides

**Saipan Harbor**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6:00 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |
| 10:50 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 1.3 Feet |
| 3:47 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |
| 11:28 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.4 Feet |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line extends northeastward from 10N130E to 13N135E then continues as a cold front to near Pagan in the Northern CNMI at 20N145E to developing low pressure centered near 25N151E. A warm front extends southeastward from the low to near Wake Island at 18N167E then finally continues east-northeastward as a stationary front to beyond 180 at 20N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are taking place along and up to 100 miles northwest of this boundary west of 140E between 140E and 168E. Extensive cloudiness and scattered showers are occurring along this boundary and northward to beyond 25N east of 168E. Broken clouds and patchy rain are found over Wake Island along and up to 250 miles north of the stationary front. A trade-wind disturbance is centered southeast of Guam at 11N151E. Broken clouds and widely scattered showers are located north of Chuuk within 75 miles of a line from 12N149E to 10N154E. A near-equatorial trough extends eastward from 2N130E through a weak circulation centered near 3N148E to end southeast of Kosrae near 3N166E. Trade-wind convergence north of the trough is producing widely scattered showers south of Koror within 100 miles of a line from 4N131E to 5N137E. Winds converging near the eastern end of the trough are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms just south of Kosrae and Tarawa or south of a line from 5N160E to EQ175E.

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:37 AM | 6:24 PM |
| Friday | 6:36 AM | 6:24 PM |
| Saturday | 6:36 AM | 6:24 PM |
| Sunday | 6:35 AM | 6:24 PM |
| Monday | 6:34 AM | 6:25 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 2:48 PM | 3:12 AM |
| Friday | 3:53 PM | 4:08 AM |
| Saturday | 4:57 PM | 5:00 AM |
| Sunday | 5:59 PM | 5:49 AM |
| Monday | 6:59 PM | 6:35 AM |

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEBRUARY 24, 2010

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09597 | 11:30am | 12:05pm | 1, 7 |

**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09597 | 12:40pm | 1:10pm | 1, 7 |

**SAIPAN-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09317 | 4:25am | 5:15am | Daily |
| C09313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | Daily |
| C09597 | 11:30am | 1:10pm | 1, 7 via ROP |
| C09601 | 12:20pm | 1:10pm | 4, 5 |
| C09603 | 3:15pm | 4:05pm | Daily |
| C09605 | 6:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily |
| C09599 | 9:20pm | 10:10pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL638 | 8:00am | 10:50am | Daily |

**SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL287 | 6:00am | 8:40am | Daily |
| DL638/288 | 8:00am | 1:30pm | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO |
| DL297 | 4:45pm | 7:30pm | Daily |
| DL289 | 5:00pm | 7:45pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1, 5 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ604 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 11:25am | Daily via Osaka |
| | | Arrive OSA 6:40am, leave OSA 9:30am | |
| OZ606 | 3:20pm | 7:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CZ3008 | 3:30am | 6:40am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604/701 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ604/701 | 2:40am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ608/705 | 3:20am | 1:30am+1 | 1, 4, 5, 7 via PUS |
| C09603/893 | 3:15pm | 9:10pm | 3, 5 via GUM-PALAU |
| OZ606/703 | 3:20pm | 10:55pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C09605/933 | 6:20pm | 9:40pm | Daily via GUM |
| C09599/PR111 | 9:20pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604/721 | 2:10am | 12:00pm | 1 via ICN |
| OZ604/721 | 2:40am | 12:00pm | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ606/749 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | 4, 6, 7 via ICN |

### ARRIVALS

**ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09598 | 3:10am | 3:45am | 5, 6 |
| C09312 | 1:20pm | 1:55pm | 6 |

**GUAM-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09598 | 2:00am | 2:30am | 5, 6 |
| C09312 | 12:10pm | 12:40pm | 6 |

**GUAM-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09316 | 2:00am | 2:50am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 |
| C09598 | 2:00am | 3:45am | 5, 6 via ROP |
| C09596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | Daily |
| C09600 | 10:05am | 10:55am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09312 | 12:10pm | 1:55pm | 6 via ROP |
| C09602 | 1:50pm | 2:40pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09604 | 4:50pm | 5:40pm | Daily |
| C09606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |

**NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL639 | 9:00pm | 1:30am+1 | Daily |

**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL290 | 10:00am | 2:35pm | Daily |
| DL298 | 10:10am | 2:50pm | Daily |
| DL287/639 | 5:50pm | 1:30+1 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO |
| DL288 | 9:00pm | 1:35am+1 | Daily |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 2:10am+1 | 4, 7 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ605 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ120 | 7:10pm | 2:20am+1 | Daily via Osaka |
| | | Arrive OSA 8:50pm, leave OSA 9:50pm | |
| OZ603 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ603 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1, 5 |

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CZ3007 | 7:30pm | 2:40am+1 | 1, 5 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ706/607 | 3:35am | 2:10am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 via PUS |
| OZ702/603 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/603 | 1:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| PR110/C09596 | 10:10pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| C0892/9596 | 10:10pm | 7:50am+1 | 3,5 via PALAU-GUM |
| C0934/9596 | 11:10pm | 7:50am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| OZ704/605 | 11:55pm | 2:20pm+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via ICN |

**HONG KONG-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ724/605 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ750/605 | 1:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4 ,6 ,7 via ICN |
| OZ722/603 | 1:30pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/603 | 1:30pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CA: China Airlines; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:00am | 7:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:50am | 8:20am | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:00am | 9:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:50am | 10:15am | Daily |
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:00pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:50pm | 5:25pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:00pm | 6:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:45pm | 7:15pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45am | 6:55am | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30am | 7:40am | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00am | 8:10am | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40am | 8:50am | Daily |
| FRE 109* | 9:10am | 9:20am | Daily |
| FRE 111* | 10:45am | 10:55am | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 113 | 11:40am | 11:50am | Daily |
| FRE 115 | 1:00pm | 1:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 2:30pm | 2:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 4:00pm | 4:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 4:40pm | 4:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 123 * | 5:40pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 125 * | 6:00pm | 6:10pm | Daily |
| **Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05am | 7:15am | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50am | 8:00am | Daily |
| FRE 106** | 8:20am | 8:30am | Daily |
| FRE 108** | 9:00am | 9:10am | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00am | 10:10am | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05am | 11:15am | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00pm | 12:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 1:30pm | 1:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 2:50pm | 3:00pm | Daily |
| FRE 120** | 4:20pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| FRE 122** | 5:00pm | 5:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 6:05pm | 6:15pm | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 6:20pm | 6:30pm | Daily |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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OPINION

# Bullies and reality in the CNMI

Being a teacher for over 21 years I have dealt with many school bullies and the letter by John S. DelRosario Jr. truly reminds me of the school bullying I have witnessed. Using my name for the title of his letter and calling me out in public is the typical behavior of a bully, especially when they can't deal with the hard truth. I presented a simple intellectual argument in hopes that it would help the indigenous people in reaching a serious decision but what do I get in turn—a bully trying his best to twist the facts intimidate me and even assert that I don't have a right to talk about Article XII. I guess he doesn't know my blood is already mixed with Chamorro blood for all eternity and I have every right to speak and vote on this issue.

I did not make a threat about the federalization of indigenous lands, I made a point of fact and history bears me out. It is obvious John S. DelRosario Jr. is not a student of history or he would have leaned the lesson taught in our experience with wage and immigration that has led to federalization. Article XII may have been approved by a court but so was slavery, segregation, and a number of other things that were in violation of American principles—all overturned!

His response to my letter was full of gibberish that amounted to a complete oxymoron argument. I am one of the few people from the mainland who have studied the local culture and applied scientific methodology. The history of the indigenous people tells me they were not scientific or planners for the future, they were a divided people with separate leaders and they did live day by day—no disrespect intended just facts. In fact, the saying and methodology of *"*little by little*"* is still a ruling philosophy especially among many of the older generation. Little by little is OK for individual efforts but I can't help but worry big time when the social, economic, and political future of the entire CNMI is in the hands of this kind of philosophy—little by little improvements in society, our economy, and politics is why we are in this situation today and its not going to cut it in today's competitive world.

Another oxymoron was his admonishment that *through our collective efforts we shall reclaim our ancestors' properties—land and sea* is ridiculous. The CNMI asked to join America and the CNMI doesn't even have a National Guard, no money and no means to perform such a feat. Sometimes the truth hurts, which is why I believe Mr. DelRosario said *we must not allow anyone (impostors and perpetrators promoting dependency) to belittle us again and take away our freedom*. He must have forgotten history again because it was the Spanish, Germans, and Japanese who took away the freedoms of the local people—it was America who restored freedom in the CNMI. Calling me an *impostor and perpetrator promoting dependency* when the CNMI has taken over two billion in mainland taxpayers money and still asking for more is an oxymoron that even the blind can see.

But the punch line for me was when he said *the protection of the indigenous people is the very essence of the federal appellate court's decision, no more, no less*. It is very obvious Mr. DelRosario is not an intellectual because he doesn't understand the American Court system to make this statement. As early as elementary school students learn that the essence of the court system is to insure the laws, principles, and rights of all America—not just the indigenous people. I know there are many adults and even students laughing at this statement by Mr. DelRosario.

I am willing to debate anyone anywhere on Article XII because there really needs to be a formal setting for this issue to be discussed and resolved in an intellectual approach—something that seems to be beyond the cognitive skills of Mr. John S. DelRosario Jr. Furthermore, where are our leaders on this important issue as they will have to present the legislation for the vote next year and no elected leader has started the task of finding a real solution—*the not until we have to attitude* my daughter schooled me about. Hopefully someone and one of the hotels or organization will sponsor an objective debate and allow me to be one of the debaters who are for *augmenting* Article XII. If they can get people like Mr. DelRosario in the debate with me I'm sure there will be many people even willing to pay a small entrance fee to see what will surly be an entertaining but informative show.

*Sharing is caring*, a phenomenon that we teach elementary students. No one ever said sharing the land was going to be easy. Mr. John S. DelRosario Jr. obviously doesn't believe in the novel concept of sharing and the principle of equality. I often told my students they will face character test all the time in life—for example if you have three cars it is easy to loan one of them but if you have only one car it becomes a real challenge and most people will find rational not to share under this scenario. This is the case with land because it is so limited in the CNMI and John S. DelRosario Jr. is just trying to generate rational not to share. Freedom isn't free and being part of America doesn't come without some kind of price tag—the CNMI takes billions but gives nothing. Only our youth who have sacrificed their life for the American Dream—not an indigenous dream of Social Imperialism.

The only thing Mr. DelRosario said that was worth anything was his comment about resolving the perpetual identity of indigenous people by moving to the same genealogy system used by Native Americans. But what gets me is people like Mr. DelRosario is willing to accept adopted people of Japanese, Chinese and other nationalities as being local but he can't find it in his heart to accept his fellow American citizens who were literally ask to come to the CNMI by recruiters—we must pray for him. Someone needs to make him understand that the federal government IS NOT going to let the CNMI continue recruiting fellow U. S. citizen who are professionals from the mainland to come here and help – work for twenty years or more but they can't own their own home.

The CNMI is clearly not being fair and with Article XII and anyone who believes the Federal government is going to allow this to continue *has NOT learned their lessons from history and they are doomed to repeat the same mistakes* – a phenomenon that we address at the high school level. Bullying me may have been successful years ago when people from the mainland were afraid to speak out. But it's a new day and people like Mr. DelRosario only serves as a platform to show the true colors of racism, discrimination and the promotion of Social Imperialism. I can only pray to God that the bullying tactics and mentality of Mr. DelRosario doesn't represent the majority of voters in the CNMI's democracy.

**Ambrose M. Bennett**
*Kagman*

LOCAL

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Assistant Secretary Anthony Babauta, Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, Guam Gov. Felix Camacho, and Intergovernmental Affairs Director and IGIA Co-Chair Cecilia Munoz.

# Guam's Camacho attends IGIA meeting

**WASHINGTON, D.C.—**Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho yesterday asked for interagency support for the full implementation of the Guahan-CNMI Visa Waiver Program during the Principal's Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA) meeting at the U.S. Department of the Interior. The half day session touched on this policy issue and others relevant to Guahan, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

Camacho stressed that effort must be taken to balance policy that will strengthen tourism and help the economies of Guahan and the CNMI. Consistent with Congressional intent of establishing a Regional Visa Waiver program, Camacho asked White House, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and U.S. Department of Commerce officials for their support to extend the same parole authority to Guahan and full implementation of Public Law 110-229. In November 2009, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security granted parole authority to tourists from China and Russia seeking to enter the CNMI in advance of full implementation of Public Law 110-229.

"While the U.S. Congress deliberated this legislation, some thought it would be prudent to establish different visa waiver systems for Guahan and the CNMI (a bifurcated program)," said Camacho. "However, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) objected and instead supported a regional approach that would apply equal treatment to Guam and the CNMI."

Additionally, Camacho asked for interagency assistance to designate and certify hospitals and healthcare facilities in Guahan and the U.S. Territories as Rural Critical Access Hospitals. He further asked for support in securing federal funding and technical assistance for the construction of a new Public Health and Social Services Building in Mangilao.

"I believe that the work of the IGIA has yielded significant policy changes that affect all U.S. Territories," said Camacho. "The advocacy of the Office of Insular Affairs and several other federal agencies has and will continue to make positive impacts on the people of Guahan." ***(PR)***

## *Congresswoman Bordallo addresses Guam infrastructure, draft* EIS *at* IGIA *meeting*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.—**Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday addressed senior level officials at the 2010 Plenary Session of the President's Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA) meeting at the U.S. Department of the Interior. Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta convened today's hearing to discuss issues affecting the U.S. Territories with relevant senior level officials across the various federal agencies.

This year the IGIA convened a second meeting devoted solely to discussions surrounding the military build-up on Guam. During the meeting, Congresswoman Bordallo reiterated her concerns regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and federal funding for infrastructure improvements on Guam.

"As I did in the 2009 IGIA meeting, I continued to emphasize the importance of cooperation between federal agencies in addressing the needs of Guam and the U.S. territories," Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo said today. "Last year, we focused on the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and the cooperation between federal agencies resulted in 335 jobs created or saved and over $236 million in federal financial assistance benefitting our island. This year, the preparation and implementation of the military build-up on Guam was a priority at the IGIA meeting. I expressed the necessity of the federal agencies coming together to address Guam's infrastructure needs and the inadequacies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Assistant Secretary Babauta stated that the Obama Administration remains committed to working with Guam in acquiring federal funding for critical civilian infrastructure improvements, like the port. Federal officials agreed that work still needs to be done, and I will continue to work on these important issues." ***(PR)***

# NZ, Fiji officials may hold informal discussions

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** (AP)—Senior officials from New Zealand and Fiji may hold informal talks next month—the first such meeting since Fiji's military chief seized power in a gun-barrel coup three years ago.

New Zealand Foreign Minister Murray McCully said Tuesday he has an in-principle agreement to meet Fiji's self-appointed prime minister, Commodore Frank Bainimarama, when the two are in Hong Kong next month. The two countries are trying to rebuild diplomatic contact after a series of tit-for-tat expulsions.

"In principle, we have agreed to take the opportunity for an informal meeting if this proves logistically possible," McCully told Parliament. "Our engagement with the Fiji administration doesn't signal a change of policy, or a change to the sanctions regime."

New Zealand, Australia, the 14-nation Pacific Islands Forum and 53-nation Commonwealth grouping have all demanded an early return to democracy in Fiji.

Bainimarama has said elections won't be held before September 2014.

Australia and New Zealand have imposed travel bans on members and supporters of the military regime, accusing it of violating the rule of law and human rights when it overturned the country's constitution last April, sacked its judges and imposed widespread media censorship and other controls.

# Business

## STOCK Portfolio

### ASIAN MARKETS

| | |
|---|---|
| AUSTRALIA 4,665.900 Down 65.100 (-1.38%) | HONG KONG 20,488.50 Down 134.50 (-0.65%) |
| JAKARTA 2,572.76 Down 10.891 (-0.42%) | TOKYO 10,198.83 Down 153.27 (-1.48%) |
| K. LUMPUR 1,270.92 Up 4.49 (-0.35%) | MANILA 2,981.14 Down 32.00 (-1.06%) |
| SINGAPORE 2,767.81 Down 14.74 (-0.53%) | SEOUL 1,612.83 Down 16.07 (-0.99%) |
| BANGKOK 710.29 Down 5.29 (-0.74%) | |

### LEADING INDICATORS

**DOW** 10,282.41 -100.97

**NASDAQ** 2,213.44 -28.59

**S&P** 1,094.60 -13.41

### MONEY MARKET

| | |
|---|---|
| Australian Dollar | 1.1236 |
| British Pound | 0.6376 |
| Canadian Dollar | 1.0494 |
| Chinese Renmbi | 6.8334 |
| Euro | 0.7338 |
| Hong Kong Dollar | 7.7705 |
| Indian Rupee | 46.302 |
| Indonesian Rupiah | 9350 |
| Japanese Yen | 89.99 |
| Malaysian Ringgit | 3.4229 |
| New Zealand Dollar | 1.4329 |
| Philippine Peso | 46.28 |
| Singapore Dollar | 1.4109 |
| South Korean Won | 1156 |
| Swiss Franc | 1.0764 |
| Taiwan Dollar | 32.115 |
| Thailand Baht | 33.2 |

*In U.S. dollar terms*

*Source: Associated Press*

# Toyota recalls won't 'totally' fix sudden surges

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Massive recalls of popular Toyota cars and trucks still may "not totally" solve frightening problems of sudden, unintended acceleration, the company's American sales chief conceded Tuesday, a day before the Japanese president of the world's largest automaker must confront angry U.S. lawmakers.

House members listened in rapt silence Tuesday to the tearful testimony of a woman whose car unaccountably surged to 100 mph, then they pressed James Lentz, president of Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc., on the company's efforts to find and fix the acceleration problems—actions many suggested were too late and too limited.

Lentz apologized repeatedly for safety defects that led to recalls of some 8.5 million Toyota cars and trucks, and he acknowledged the changes the company is making probably aren't the end of the story.

Putting remaining doubts to rest is of vital importance to millions more Toyota owners in the United States and elsewhere, who have continued to drive but with serious concerns about their cars. Toyota sales have suffered, too, and a small army of dealers showed up on Capitol Hill Tuesday, arguing that this week's high-profile hearings are unfairly targeting their company.

AP

James E. Lentz, president and chief operating officer, Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc., testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2010, before the House Oversight and Investigations subcommittee hearing on Toyota.

"We are vigilant and we continue to look for potential causes," Lentz told the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

That search had better continue, a number of lawmakers said, openly questioning Toyota's insistence that the problems are mechanical, not linked to the vehicles' sophisticated electronics.

Without a more vigorous investigation of the possibility that electronics are involved, Texas Republican Rep. Joe Barton said of Toyota's probe: "In my opinion, it's a sham."

### Problems grow — TOYOTA

*Toyota has recalled more than 8.5 million vehicles in recent months because of growing complaints about safety issues.*

**'06** **Sept.** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) opens investigation on reports of "surging" in Camrys; closes investigation a year later

**'07** **March** Toyota receives reports about accelerator pedal glitch in Tundra truck

**Sept.** Toyota recalls some Lexus and Camry models to secure floor mat that could trap gas pedal, cause acceleration

**'08** **Jan.** NHTSA investigates unintended acceleration in Toyota Tacoma pickups; probe closed in Aug. after no defect found

**Aug. 28** Off-duty Calif. Highway Patrol officer, family killed after gas pedal in Lexus is caught under floor mat

**'09** **Sept. 29** Toyota issues recall for 3.8 million vehicles due to risk of gas pedal becoming caught under floor mat

**Nov. 4** NHTSA accuses Toyota of providing owners with "inaccurate and misleading information" about floor mat recall

**Nov. 25** Toyota recalls at least 4 million vehicles to reconfigure gas pedals

**'10** **Jan 21** Toyata recalls 2.3 million vehicles to correct separate problems that could cause gas pedal to stick

**Jan 26** Toyota suspends sales; halts production of eight models due to gas pedal recall; the next day, adds 1.1 million to floor mat recall

**Feb. 1** Toyota says it had developed fix for sticking gas pedal; begins shipping part to dealers

**Feb. 3** NHTSA says it has received more than 100 complaints about brake problems in Prius hybrids

**Feb. 4** Toyota says gas pedal recall could cost $2 billion; total recall is 8.1 million; says Prius problem is software glitch; NHTSA opens Prius probe

**Feb. 5** Toyota CEO makes first public appearance to apologize for recall problems

**Feb. 9** 437,000 Priuses recalled for brake problems; NHTSA says it has received complaints about steering problems in Corollas

**Feb. 22** Federal prosecutors open criminal investigation into Toyota's safety problems

**Feb. 23** Congress begins hearings on Toyota recalls

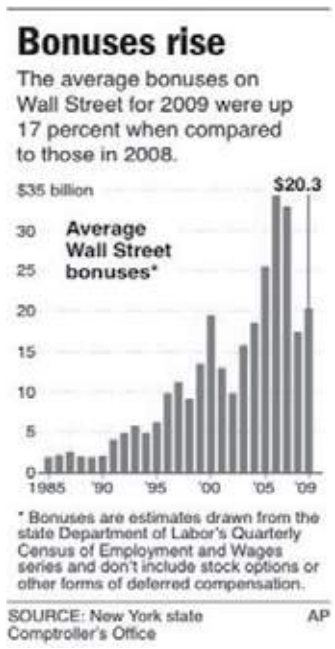
© 2010 MCT
Source: CNN, AP
Graphic: Judy Treible

# Wall Street bonuses shoot up 17 percent in 2009

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Wall Street bonuses climbed 17 percent in 2009 to $20.3 billion as many of the investment banks that were bailed out at taxpayer expense reported blowout profits.

The announcement Tuesday by New York Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli was likely to outrage many Americans who are barely getting by. And it happened on the same day that private economists reported a plunge in consumer confidence—a blow to hopes that spending by shoppers would help speed up an economic recovery.

"Wall Street is vital to New York's economy, and the dollars generated by the industry help the state's bottom line," DiNapoli said. "But for most Americans, these huge bonuses are a bitter pill and hard to comprehend. ... Taxpayers bailed them out, and now they're back making money while many New York families are still struggling to make ends meet."




The reason for the surge in bonuses was simple: Wall Street firms had a great year.

Broker-dealer operations associated with the New York Stock Exchange earned a record $49.9 billion through the year's first three quarters. The firms probably closed out the year $55 billion in the black, DiNapoli's office said.

## Facing pressure, Bernanke to address lawmakers

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Ben Bernanke goes to Capitol Hill on Wednesday carrying the weight of high expectations.

The Federal Reserve chairman helped pull the country out of the worst recession since the 1930s. Now, lawmakers want to know what he can, or will, do to ease the jobs crisis and make sure the economic recovery lasts. Many will be looking, too, for any clues about when the Fed might start to tighten credit.

Bernanke

Bernanke, who will deliver his twice-a-year economic report to Congress, will be under more pressure than usual. It's an election year for lawmakers, whose constituents face near-double-digit unemployment, record-high home foreclosures and tough-to-get credit, especially for small businesses.

As he was sworn in for a second term as Fed chief this month, Bernanke said Congress and the White House must do their part to provide relief.

"We at the Federal Reserve cannot hope to solve all these problems on our own," he said.

# Flagging confidence intensifies economic fears

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Americans' confidence in the economy has suffered a sudden relapse, dimming hopes that they will start spending—and spurring job growth—any time soon.

The Consumer Confidence Index figures released Tuesday were much worse than analysts had expected and showed that Americans are morose about the job market and their economic prospects. That bodes ill for the sort of uptick in consumer spending that normally powers economic recovery, and could raise pressure on the Obama administration and Congress to create jobs themselves.

The index fell almost 11 points to 46 in February, down from a revised 56.5 in January and the lowest level since a 40.8 reading in April 2009. It erased three consecutive months of improvement, according to the Conference Board, the research group that releases the monthly index.

Analysts were expecting only a slight decrease to 55. Economists watch the confidence numbers closely because consumer spending accounts for about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Asian stocks slide after gloomy US consumer report

**HONG KONG** (AP)—Asian stock markets slid Wednesday after a plunge in American consumer confidence magnified worries about the U.S. recovery. Losses in most regional markets, which tracked declines in U.S. and European stocks overnight, followed a two-day advance. The dollar weakened against the yen and euro, while oil prices rose above $79 a barrel. Sellers were emboldened by news a key measure of U.S. consumer confidence dropped sharply.

### Oil rises above $79 after US crude supply drop

**SINGAPORE** (AP)—Oil prices rose above $79 a barrel Wednesday in Asia after a report showed U.S. crude inventories unexpectedly fell last week, suggesting demand may be improving. Benchmark crude for April delivery was up 34 cents to $79.20 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract lost $1.45 to settle at $78.86 on Tuesday. Oil has bounced between $70 a barrel and $80 for most of the last six months as investors wait for signs that U.S. crude demand is catching up with an overall economic recovery.

# Nation

## NYPD: Zazi planned to kill commuters at rush hour

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Distressed over the deaths of civilians in his native Afghanistan, a man who once operated a coffee cart near the World Trade Center site hatched a plan to join the Taliban and fight the U.S. military.

Najibullah Zazi traveled to Pakistan in August 2008 but never made it to Afghanistan. Al-Qaida operatives spotted him. They had more ambitious plans and conspired with him to try to help him die a martyr in a bombing of the New York subway system, he admitted Monday.

"I had discussions with al-Qaida leaders, including target locations, such as New York City subways," he said.

Zazi, a former Colorado airport shuttle driver, pleaded guilty Monday in Brooklyn federal court to conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction, conspiring to commit murder in a foreign country and providing material support for a terrorist organization. The 25-year-old, part of what prosecutors consider one of the most serious U.S. terror threats since the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, faces life in prison without parole when he's sentenced in June.

The jailed Zazi had recently volunteered information about the bomb plot in the first step toward a plea deal, The Associated Press learned earlier this month from officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because the terror investigation was ongoing. His cooperation suggests prosecutors hope to expand the case and bring charges against other suspects.

AP

Attorney for Najibullah Zazi William Stampur speaks to the media outside Brooklyn federal court, Monday, Feb. 22, 2010, in New York.

Already charged are an imam, a cab driver and Zazi's uncle and father, who's been accused of trying to dispose of chemicals.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said in Washington that the planned bombings "could have been devastating."

"This attempted attack on our homeland was real, it was in motion and it would have been deadly," he said.

Zazi admitted using notes taken at an al-Qaida training camp in Waziristan, Pakistan, to build homemade explosives with beauty supplies purchased in the Denver suburbs and cooked up in a Colorado hotel room. He then drove the materials to New York just before the eighth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

## GOP's Brown branded turncoat for jobs bill vote

**BOSTON** (AP)—A month after being crowned the darling of national conservatives, Republican Sen. Scott Brown of Massachusetts is being branded "Benedict Brown" for siding with Democrats in favor of a jobs bill endorsed by the Obama administration.

Like the four other GOP senators who joined him, the man who won the late Democrat Edward Kennedy's seat says it's about jobs, not party politics. And that may be good politics, too.

The four other GOP senators who broke ranks—Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins of Maine, George Voinovich of Ohio and Christopher "Kit" Bond of Missouri—also were criticized on Tuesday. But Brown was the big target on conservative Web sites, talk shows and even the Facebook page his campaign has promoted as an example of his new-media savvy.

"We campaigned for you. We donated to your campaign. And you turned on us like every other RINO," said one writer, using the initials for "Republican-In-Name-Only."

The conservative-tilting Drudge Report colored a photo of Brown on its home page in scarlet.

The new senator responded by calling into a Boston radio station.

"I've taken three votes," Brown said with exasperation. "And to say I've sold out any particular party or interest group, I think, is certainly unfair."

The senator said that by the time he seeks re-election in two years, he will have taken thousands of votes.

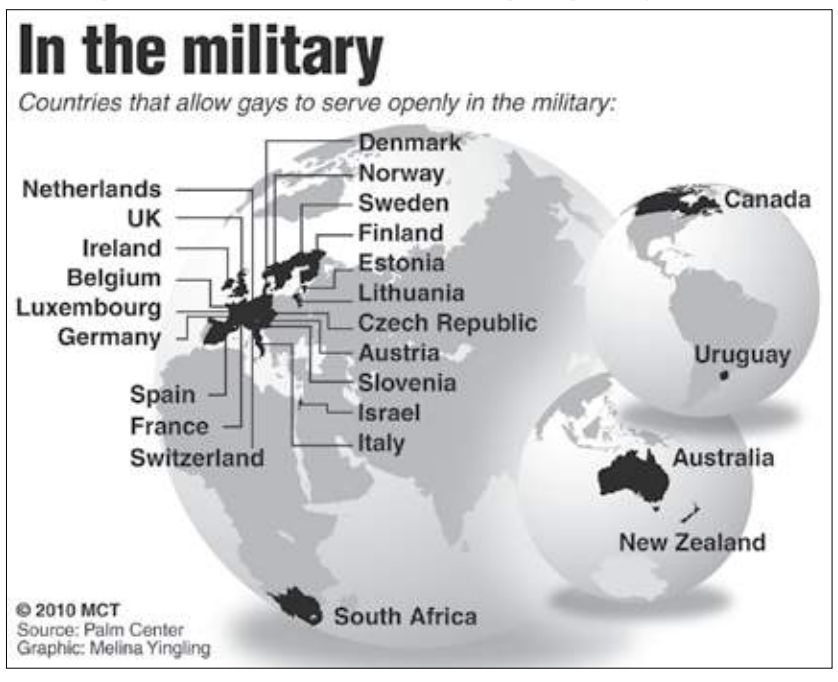
## Chiefs warn against lifting gay ban too quickly

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Top Army and Air Force officers said Tuesday they would be reluctant to overturn a 17-year policy that prohibits gays from serving openly in the military without more time to ascertain it won't hurt the services.

"I do have serious concerns about the impact of a repeal of the law on a force that is fully engaged in two wars and has been at war for eight and a half years," Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey told Congress. "We just don't know the impacts on readiness and military effectiveness."

As Casey cautioned the Senate Armed Services Committee against moving too fast to repeal the law, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz made similar remarks before the House.

The carefully crafted comments indicate reluctance among the military's senior ranks to act anytime soon on President Barack Obama's plan to repeal the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.




Obama says the policy is wrongheaded and should change. Defense Secretary Robert Gates agrees but wants to move slowly, and has ordered a lengthy assessment on how to lift the ban without affecting troops and their families.

Officials expect the study to be complete by the end of the year, but that it could be several more years before the repeal is fully implemented.

In the meantime, congressional Democrats are debating how to advance the issue. Some party members are reluctant to repeal the 1993 law, while others want an immediate moratorium on dismissals.

## Dems, GOP: Summit will not break logjam on health

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Here's one point on which Democrats and Republicans agree on health care: President Barack Obama's much-touted televised summit has virtually no chance of breaking the political logjam. That means Democrats will be forced to find a way to pass an overhaul on their own or face a huge political defeat.

Lawmakers from both parties suggested the Obama-hosted meeting Thursday will amount to little more than political theater. No cracks appeared in the GOP's overwhelming opposition to Democrats' efforts. And both parties saw the president's revised, far-reaching proposal, released Monday, as a call for Democrats to try to pass the legislation on their own under Senate rules that would bar Republican delaying tactics.

"We're happy to be there, but I'm not quite sure what the purpose is," Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said Tuesday of the daylong summit. "It seems to me the president's already made up his mind."

Underscoring his points, McConnell invited some of Obama's sharpest critics, including the 2008 GOP presidential nominee, Sen. John McCain of Arizona, to join him. None of the GOP moderates who have raised the prospect of bipartisanship on health care, such as New Hampshire Sen. Judd Gregg or Maine Sen. Olympia Snowe, were included.

Democrats were equally dismissive of GOP demands that they start from scratch.

"This idea that we have to start with a blank sheet of paper is ridiculous," said Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### 2 teens injured in Colo. middle school shooting

**LITTLETON, Colo.** (AP)—Two teenagers were shot Tuesday afternoon at a suburban Denver middle school that's just a few miles from Columbine High School, the site of one of the nation's deadliest school shootings, authorities said. An adult suspect has been arrested, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office said on its Web site. One victim, a male, was shot inside Deer Creek Middle School in Littleton, while a female victim was shot just outside the school, the sheriff's office said. The two victims are believed to be students and are expected to survive, West Metro Fire officials said.

### Pa. abortion doctor's license suspended after raid

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Federal agents raided a clinic where abortions are performed and found "deplorable and unsanitary" conditions, including blood on the floor and parts of aborted fetuses in jars, according to the state agency that shut it down and suspended the license of the doctor in charge. In the order suspending Dr. Kermit Gosnell's license, the Pennsylvania Department of State's Board of Medicine said investigators found numerous health and safety risks at Gosnell's abortion and pain-management clinic, including a preoperative and recovery area that consisted of several recliners grouped together.

### Police: Calif death-row inmate linked to cold case

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Authorities say DNA ties a California death row inmate convicted in the killings of seven hikers to the unsolved 1979 slaying of a jogger in a San Francisco park. Cold-case Inspector Joe Toomey said Tuesday that DNA evidence in the stabbing of 23-year-old Mary Bennett matched a sample belonging to David Joseph Carpenter. Prosecutors haven't decided whether to file new charges against the 79-year-old San Quentin State Prison inmate. Carpenter became known as the "trailside killer" after the murders of seven hikers in the San Francisco Bay area in the early 1980s. He was sentenced to death for the killings twice in separate trials.

# Asia

# US offensive yet to persuade Afghans in key town

**MARJAH, Afghanistan** (AP)—Bouwudin courteously greeted the Afghan and American officers who came to meet him, offering tea and eventually a meal as the meeting lingered on. No amount of invitations could get him to walk a few hundred yards to the Marines base.

"I'm sorry, but I can't do that, it's too early," said Bouwudin, a tribal chief. "I'll go when security has come back."

Despite an 11-day-old U.S.-led attack to capture the Taliban stronghold of Marjah, most Afghan tribal leaders in this town are like Bouwudin—still sitting on the fence. The mission may be proceeding militarily but it has not yet won over the people who matter most.

Many of them seem unwilling to believe that the Americans and the Afghan military will stay long enough to ensure that the Taliban never come back.

"If you leave again, I'll have too many problems with the Taliban," Bouwudin said with a polite smile as servants poured more cups of tea to guests sitting on rugs next to the mud-brick wall circling his fortress-like compound.

Safety wasn't the issue in Bouwudin's refusal to visit the American base. He simply didn't want to be seen with NATO troops.

The Marines made no fuss about it. They knew Bouwudin had worked with NATO before, only to be beaten and jailed by the Taliban when they moved in when British forces left in 2007.

His family had to pay a ransom for his release. When British and Afghan troops reclaimed the town again in March last year, Bouwudin stayed away. It was a wise move because the British pulled out again.

Winning over people like Bouwudin is key to NATO's efforts in the embattled Afghan south. The critical step is to prove that American troops and Afghan units are going to stay—and provide better governance than the strict Islamist Taliban, who, residents say, at least ruled the town without corruption and allowed the lucrative opium poppy business to thrive.

"He's exactly the kind of person we call 'on the fence,'" says Lt. Col. Brian Christmas, the commander of 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines. "We need to bring him over to our side, because if he does, the population will follow."

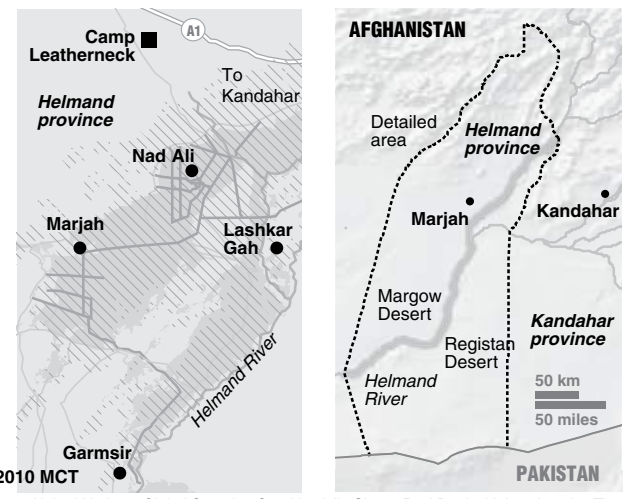
As he met with Bouwudin, Christmas promised over a dozen schools, a health clinic, roads and—most importantly—professional police forces permanently stationed in the area.

## Marjah assault

*Several gun battles between sniper teams and U.S. Marines and Afghan troops erupted in Marjah, a Taliban stronghold in Helmand province.*

**Farm land** Maneuvering among irrigation canal could be challenging

**Poppy production** Province has highest production in Afghanistan




Source: United Nations, Global Security Graphic: Julie Sheer, Paul Duginski, Los Angeles Times

AP

During a medevac mission by the U.S. Army's Task Force Pegasus, Marines carry a wounded comrade to a waiting helicopter, following an attack on their armored vehicle by a planted improvised explosive device, in Marjah, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Tuesday Feb. 23, 2010.

# UN: Aboriginal program violates human rights

**SYDNEY** (AP)—An Australian government program imposing radical restrictions on Aborigines in a crackdown on child abuse is inherently racist, breaches international human rights obligations and must be changed immediately, a U.N. official said Wednesday.

In an advance copy of a report to be released next week, the United Nations special rapporteur on indigenous human rights, James Anaya, expressed serious concerns over the controversial initiative known as "the intervention."

The program forced a series of tough rules on Aborigines in the Northern Territory—including bans on alcohol and hard-core pornography—in response to an investigation that found rampant child sex abuse in remote indigenous communities.

"The measures specifically target indigenous people and impair certain rights and freedoms," Anaya, a University of Arizona human rights law professor, told The Associated Press. "It does impair self-determination of Aboriginal communities, their ability to make certain choices about how their communities are run."

In August, Anaya traveled to several Aboriginal communities to hear residents' concerns. His conclusions and recommendations released Wednesday are part of a larger report Anaya wrote on Aboriginal issues that will be released next week.

Aborigines make up about 2 percent of Australia's population of 22 million and are the country's poorest, unhealthiest and most disadvantaged minority. Governments have spent billions of dollars on community programs, housing and education reforms over the past few decades, but living conditions for the nation's original inhabitants remain abysmal.

# Police: 15 dead, 57 buried by Indonesian landslide

**CIWIDEY, Indonesia** (AP)—Rescuers used heavy digging equipment Wednesday to clear a muddy landslide that killed at least 15 people and left 57 buried on Indonesia's main island of Java, an official said.

Days of heavy rain prompted the landslide Tuesday afternoon at a mountainous tea plantation near the village of Tenjoljaya in Ciwidey district of West Java province, destroying scores of homes.

Scores of soldiers and police officers plus two excavators bolstered search efforts Wednesday and 15 bodies had been recovered from a vast pile of clay by the afternoon, National Disaster Management Agency spokesman Priyadi Kardono said.

He said another 15 people had been injured, two of whom had been admitted to hospital.

The winding mountain roads made boggy by the days of heavy rain were hampering efforts to get equipment and rescuers to the scene, he said, adding that more landslides were possible.

Some 600 villagers from the region have been evacuated to temporary shelters in safer locations, Kardono said. Most of these were from unaffected nearby villages that were in landslide-prone areas.

Kardono said 25 people were believed to have died in the plantation's factory and office. It was not immediately clear where the six bodies were found.

# *Afghan leader takes control of vote fraud panel*

**KABUL** (AP)—Afghanistan's president has raised concern he's reneging on promises to clean up corruption by taking control of a formerly independent body that monitors election fraud, complicating Obama administration efforts to erode support for the Taliban.

In another effort to win the trust of Afghans as a mass offensive continues against the Taliban in the south, the commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan went on national television Tuesday to apologize for an airstrike that killed civilians.

President Hamid Karzai signed a decree last week giving him the power to appoint all members of the Electoral Complaints Commission, a group previously dominated by U.N. appointees that uncovered massive fraud on behalf of Karzai in last year's presidential election.

The decree, which was made public Monday, suggests that Karzai wants to tighten control of the electoral process ahead of parliamentary balloting next September. The election was due in May but was postponed because foreign donors would not help pay for it without reforms.

"This is bad news for democracy," said Gerard Russell, a former U.N. political adviser who resigned over disputes surrounding the August presidential election. "Basically if President Karzai wishes it, this could prevent free elections ever being held in Afghanistan."

Western diplomats based in Kabul expressed similar concerns but would not allow their names to be published because they were not authorized to speak about the issue to the media.

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said Canada is troubled by reports that the decree could diminish the level of independence of the Electoral Complaints Commission.

He called the commission vital and noted that during the most recent election, the ECC, led by Canadian Grant Kippen, played a crucial role in efforts to have a credible election.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### RP police: Govt agencies face gun charges

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Government agencies in the Philippines that have failed to register their firearms will face legal charges and any personnel found with unregistered weapons will be arrested, police said Tuesday as a crackdown on illegal weapons continued ahead of national elections. The Philippines launched a campaign last year to rein in the large number of illegal guns in the country, saying they fueled election violence, terrorism, insurgency and other crimes. A gun amnesty program has helped cut the number of unregistered firearms to 400,000 from 1.1 million last year, national police Chief Jesus Verzosa said.

### Saudi stands trial over Jakarta hotel bombings

**JAKARTA, Indonesia** (AP)—A retired Saudi Arabian school teacher went on trial Wednesday charged with financing suicide bombings at two Jakarta hotels that killed seven and wounded more than 50. Al Khelaiw Ali Abdullah, 55, denied any involvement in the July 17, 2009, attacks on the downtown J.W. Marriott and Ritz Carlton hotels. "I'm not a terrorist. I'll fight it," Abdullah told reporters as he arrived at the South Jakarta District Court ahead of his trial by a panel of three judges. Abdullah is charged with helping support terrorists by giving or lending money to perpetrators of a terrorist act. He faces a maximum 20 years in prison if convicted.

### Indonesian ranger freed from jaws of Komodo dragon

**JAKARTA, Indonesia** (AP)—An Indonesian park ranger escaped an attack by a Komodo dragon, the world's largest lizard species, when his colleagues heard his cries for help and drove the reptile away. Marcelinus Subanghadir was outside his hut on Komodo Island late Monday when a nearly 7-foot-long (more than 2-meter-long) dragon grabbed hold of his right foot, Komodo National Park chief Tamen Sitorus said. The dragon had Subanghadir's foot clamped in its shark-like, serrated teeth until fellow rangers heard his screams and drove it off with wooden clubs, Sitorus said. Subanghadir, 34, suffered deep lacerations and was recovering at a hospital on nearby Bali. Komodo dragons can be found in the wild only on the eastern Indonesian islands of Komodo, Padar and Rinca. The lizards—thought to number fewer than 4,000—can grow longer than 10 feet (3 meters) and weigh 150 pounds (70 kilograms).

# World

# 6 Haitian orphans to resume trip to US homes

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti** (AP)—Six U.S.-bound orphans seized by Haitian officials as they prepared to board a flight to Miami were to resume their journey to American homes on Wednesday after being handed over to the U.S. Embassy.

Jan Bonnema, the Minnesota-based founder of the Cap-Haitien orphanage where the children lived, said the orphans were to fly to Miami in the afternoon on a charter and their adoptive parents will be able to take their children home on Thursday.

Sara Vanzee and her husband, Tim, are waiting for their 13-month-old son, Albert, to arrive. The couple says the situation has been stressful even though they understand the suspicions surrounding adoptions given recent cases in Haiti.

"Our hope is that they're OK with it, that they can see that we absolutely love these children and that we want to provide for them," Vanzee, who is from the U.S. Midwest, told The Associated Press.

AP

In a Feb. 20, 2010 photo provided by Sarah Thacker of Fergus Fallls, Minn., Thacker is seen with a two-year-old Haitian boy named Reese in Port-au-Prince. Reese and Thacker were among four women and six children detained in Haiti as they were about to depart the country.

The case of the six orphans seized Saturday at the Port-au-Prince airport echoed that of 10 Americans caught last month trying to take youngsters out of the earthquake-ravaged nation. But this time things turned out differently, with the six children being handed over to the U.S. Embassy on Tuesday.

The two cases highlight the perils of trying to remove youngsters from this desperate country.

At the very moment when Haiti's impoverished children are in greatest need—and well-meaning foreigners are most willing to help—fears of child trafficking are making it harder than ever for them to leave the Western Hemisphere's poorest land.

Fears were exacerbated by the case of 10 U.S. Baptist missionaries who were stopped in late January trying to take a busload of 33 children to the Dominican Republic without proper documentation.

Thousands of desperate Haitian parents, unable to care for their own children, have shown themselves eager to give the youngsters away in hopes of giving them a better life. But they are terrified they will be tricked by predators who will enslave or sexually abuse the children.

Haiti's government immediately halted new adoptions in the chaos that followed the Jan. 12 quake, allowing only those already approved to move forward.

That chill hardened into a freeze after Saturday's incident. A U.S. State Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the matter's sensitivity, said the latest drama held up the departure of 50 orphans approved for U.S. adoption.

It took the U.S. ambassador and Haiti's prime minister to iron out on Tuesday what turned out to be an ugly misunderstanding.

Four women including an adoptive mother from Minnesota arrived at the airport with six children ages 1 to 5 from the Cap-Haitien orphanage. The U.S. Embassy official carrying the documents needed to usher them through immigration was running late.

Suddenly, a group of 20 men rushed to block them, cursing them and screaming "'You can't take our children!'"

## Iran nuclear offer falls short

**VIENNA** (AP)—Iran has formally set out its terms for giving up most of its cache of enriched uranium in a confidential document—and the conditions fall short of what has been demanded by the United States and other world powers.

Washington dismissed the document—seen by The Associated Press on Tuesday—as a "red herring" and warned it would consult with its allies on new penalties on Iran to punish it for its nuclear defiance.

The document says Tehran is ready to hand over the bulk of its stockpile, as called for under a deal brokered by the International Atomic Energy Agency and endorsed by the five permanent U.N. Security Council members and Germany.

But Iran adds that it must simultaneously receive fuel rods for its research reactor in return, and that such an exchange must take place on Iranian territory.

The Iranian offer was sure to be rejected by the six powers, which have waited for nearly six months for such an official answer.

The United States and others fear Iran's nuclear program is geared toward making nuclear weapons, while Tehran claims it is simply to provide more power for its growing population. The United Nations has slapped sanctions on Iran for its defiance on nuclear issues.

Ali Asghar Soltanieh, the chief Iranian delegate to the IAEA, told the AP the document—his letter to International Atomic Energy Agency chief Yukiya Amano—was "formally reflecting" his country's position, which has been expressed to the IAEA and to the media in various forms.

The U.S. and its allies have previously said there can be no significant deviation from the original deal, which would commit Iran to shipping out its nuclear material first and then waiting up to a year for it to be turned into fuel for its reactor, which makes medical isotopes.

## Sudan and Darfur rebel group sign key truce

**CAIRO** (AP)—Darfur's most powerful rebel group and the Sudanese government on Tuesday signed a truce after a year of internationally sponsored negotiations, raising hopes the bloody seven-year conflict could draw to a close.

Rebel leader Khalil Ibrahim of the Justice and Equality Movement announced the cease-fire would begin that night as the international sponsors of the talks announced a $1 billion development fund for the war ravaged region.

The once bitter enemies, Ibrahim and Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, shook hands and embraced after the signing. The ceremony, hosted by Qatar's Emir Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, was attended by U.S., U.N., African and Arab representatives among others.

The next challenge for the mediators will be getting the dozens of other rebel splinter groups to join the process as the arduous power and wealth-sharing talks begin, especially since JEM is primarily a military movement without the popular base of other rebel groups.

Previous cease-fires and partial peace deals have been short-lived.

"This framework agreement is a very important step," Ibrahim said. "We point out, however, that the road to peace still needs much patience and honest concessions from both sides."

Al-Bashir said he hoped to see a full peace agreement by mid-March and praised the presence of other rebel groups at the ceremony, saying recent steps by them to unify their fractious positions was "good news."

"With this agreement, we take a major step toward ending the war," he said.

### Truce in Darfur

*A truce between the Sudanese government and the main rebel group may put an end to the seven-year war.*

**Behind the crisis**

**2003** Darfur's ethnic African tribes begin revolting against Sudan's Arab-led government

**April 2004** African Union (AU) sends troops to monitor a cease-fire, which never stood

**May 2006** Government accord with one rebel group backfires, causing fighting between rival rebel factions

**July 2007** U.N.-AU force tries to encourage peace

**March 2009** Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir indicted for war crimes by international court

**February 2010** Rebel Justice and Equality Movement signs truce; other rebel groups could undermine peace

Source: AP, Reuters, BBC

**Chad's role**

- Sudan, Chad have accused one another of harboring the other's rebels
- Improved ties could help truce's chances of success

**Crisis' toll**

- About 300,000 have died
- 2.7 million have been displaced

© 2010 MCT

## Latin America creates bloc sans US; spat mars mood

**PLAYA DE CARMEN, Mexico** (AP)—Latin America and Caribbean leaders united Tuesday to create a regional bloc excluding Canada and the United States, but its birth was undermined by a spat in which the Colombian president told Venezuela's Hugo Chavez "to be a man."

Many of the 32 Latin American and Caribbean countries participating in the summit have long called for a new organization that will not be dominated by the interests of their two wealthy northern neighbors. The Washington-based Organization of American States, the largest diplomatic bloc in the Western Hemisphere, has been heavily influenced by the United States.

Mexican President Felipe Calderon, who hosted the summit in a Caribbean resort, said the bloc "will consolidate and globally project a Latin American and Caribbean identity."

Latin American countries, however, have competing interests of their own—a point driven home by bickering at the summit.

At a dinner Monday night, conservative Colombian President Alvaro Uribe started complaining about Venezuela's trade sanctions against Colombia, according to an official who spoke on condition of anonymity because delegations at the meeting had agreed not to discuss the spat publicly.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Sex at the museum: Swingers in Vienna art hall

**VIENNA** (AP)—In the name of art, an Austrian landmark is encouraging visitors to confront their sexual inhibitions by having them walk through a swingers club to reach one of Gustav Klimt's masterpieces. The Secession—a world-renowned venue for contemporary art in downtown Vienna—has temporarily incorporated a sex club named "Element6" as part of a project by Swiss artist Christoph Buechel. The swingers are not there during the day, but their mattresses, erotic pictures, bar and whirlpool are.

### Argentine stolen at birth, now 32, learns identity

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina** (AP)—The search is finally over for Abel Madariaga, whose pregnant wife was kidnapped by Argentine security forces 33 years ago. After decades of doubt and loneliness, of searching faces in the street in hopes they might be related, Madariaga has found his son. "I never stopped thinking I would find him," the 59-year-old father said, squeezing his son's arm during a packed news conference Tuesday. "For the first time, I know who I was. Who I am," the young man said, still marveling at his new identity: Francisco Madariaga Quintela, a name he only learned last week.

### President's ouster in coup praised in Niger

**NIAMEY, Niger** (AP)—It's politics, upside down. The elected president of a uranium-rich nation morphs into a despot and refuses to relinquish power, prompting the army to stage a popular coup with guns blazing in the name of democracy. Most governments check executive excesses through sister branches—the legislature, the judiciary. In Niger, the military has assumed the bizarre yet vital role of safeguarding democratic institutions by force—most recently by blowing a hole through the front gate of the presidential palace last week and taking hostage an entire government.

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

# FERNANDO BERNARD ANTONIO

was born to life on August 28, 1944
and was called to his eternal rest
on February 20, 2010

***His memory will forever live in the hearts of his***

**Wife** : Victoria Blau Antonio
**Children** : Imelda Antonio
Dewey Rengechel Antonio
**Grandchildren** : Adam A. Palacios
Brendon A. Villacrusis

*He is additionally survived by his sister, brother & sister-in-law, aunts & uncles, cousins and other relatives and friends.*

Daily mass is being offered at 6:00pm at San Antonio Church and followed by the recitation of the Holy Rosary at 7:00pm.

On Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 7:30am, his remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to his residence.

Viewing and last respects will be at San Antonio Church beginning at 9:00am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed by interment service at Mount Carmel Cemetery.

***Please join us in prayers.***

**Victoria Blau Antonio**
**Children & Family**

# Environment

## Emitters take lead to salvage climate accord

**By JULIET EILPERIN and STEVEN MUFSON**
(C) 2010, THE WASHINGTON POST

**WASHINGTON**—Just two months after patching together a climate deal in Copenhagen, the world's biggest emitters of greenhouse gases are trying to figure out how to keep the fragile accord together while the United Nations, which has played a central part in 15 rounds of climate talks, seems destined for a smaller role in future negotiations.

Nearly 100 nations, including the United States, South Africa and Brazil, have endorsed the Copenhagen Accord. But China and India have yet to formally sign off on it, and sources close to Chinese officials say they are balking at sensitive points dealing with transparency and monitoring even as they vow to press ahead with limits on the growth of their emissions in the next decade.

Meanwhile, domestic political stalemate in the United States could make it challenging for the Obama administration to deliver on American pledges to cut emissions 17 percent below 2005 levels by 2020.

"Some countries are holding back I think because they question whether the very positive provisions in the accord will actually get implemented," said Todd Stern, the U.S. special envoy on climate change, in an interview Thursday. "My message to them is that the only way to have an impact on that is to engage, to become part of the accord, and to try to make sure it does get implemented in the right way."

Pessimism about global climate talks deepened Thursday as Yvo de Boer, the U.N.'s top climate official, resigned after struggling for three-and-a-half years to produce a binding legal international treaty that would have required the world's major emitters of greenhouse gases to dramatically cut their carbon output in the coming decades. He will step down as of July 1, with that goal unmet.

"It was a difficult decision to make, but I believe the time is ripe for me to take on a new challenge," said de Boer, who will join the consulting group KPMG as a global adviser on climate and sustainability and work with several universities.

Many observers saw de Boer's resignation as a recognition that the U.N. role had been overtaken by the big emitting nations, which hammered out the accord at the last minute in Copenhagen.

"It's a death knell for the U.N. process," said Frank Maisano, a lobbyist on energy issues at Bracewell & Giuliani. "It's clear now that you're going to have to solve this issue through agreements with major emitters."

"What Copenhagen did in my mind was put to bed the notion that there will be a global binding treaty that sets targets," said Kenneth Lieberthal, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and China expert who has been tracking climate talks. Instead, he said, countries would try to "develop mutual trust that will enhance their willingness to do more rather than less."

Negotiators will meet again in Cancun, Mexico at the end of the year to try to hammer out a treaty that could replace the 1997 Kyoto Protocol when the first period of that global climate pact expires in two years. Mexican negotiators are trying to organize a preliminary session in April. Edward A. "Ned" Helme, president of the Center for Clean Air Policy, who met earlier this month in Mexico with key officials, said "there was a sense that this could be salvaged."

But the procedural and substantive questions that stymied the Copenhagen talks remain unresolved. The agreement there was not legally binding, as some countries had hoped. Instead it produced a pact in which both industrialized and major developing nations agreed to make voluntary cuts in greenhouse gases by 2020 while richer nations would help deliver to $100 billion to help poorer ones cope with climate change.

## EPA boosts funding for water projects in Pacific territories

■ **Funding jumps from $3.2 million to $37.4 million**

**HONOLULU**—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced today a historic increase of over $34.2 million in wastewater and drinking water infrastructure funding to Guam, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

"This major increase in funding will allow Guam, American Samoa and CNMI to work on badly needed wastewater and drinking water infrastructure improvements," said Jared Blumenfeld, regional administrator for EPA's Pacific Southwest region. "This is the first time that the U.S. territories will receive funding comparable to states on the mainland for these vital public health efforts."

As part of EPA's budget for this year, the EPA Administrator for the first time has the discretion to set aside 1.5 percent of the total funding allotted to the national EPA State Revolving Fund for Clean Water and Drinking Water to be available to U.S. territories. This year Guam and American Samoa will each receive $13.1 million and CNMI will receive $11.27 million.

Below are the amounts the Pacific territories will be getting compared to what they received last year:

**For wastewater infrastructure:**

■ Guam - $8 million; previous: $446,500
■ CNMI - $5.17 million; previous: $286,800
■ American Samoa - $11.1 million; previous: $617,000

**For drinking water infrastructure:**

■ Guam - $5.1 million; previous: $887,000
■ CNMI - $6.1 million; previous: $764,000
■ American Samoa - $2 million; previous: $202,000

"This funding will go to drinking water and water quality protection projects such as wastewater treatment, protection of drinking water sources, and improvements to water storage and distribution facilities," said John McCarroll, manager for the Pacific Islands Office for EPA's Pacific Southwest region. "These improvements will have a real impact on public health and the quality of drinking water and surface water for island residents." ***(PR)***

*In Loving Memory of*

# Consolacion Aldan Delos Reyes

Also known as "Chong Roman Onio"
Was born on August 26, 1935
Was called to her eternal rest on Thursday, February 18,2010 at the age of 74

***She is predeceased by her:***
**Husband:** †Roman Manahane Delos Reyes
**Parents:** †Manuel Fausto Aldan and †Cecilia Castro Aldan
**Parents in-law:** †Antonio Deleon Guerrero Delos Reyes and †Rosa Manahane Delos Reyes
**Sisters & Brothers in-law:** †Maria Castro Aldan Cabrera & †Jose Tenorio Cabrera
† Josepha Castro Aldan Fields & †Cecil Fields
†Lourdes Castro Aldan
**Daughter in-law:** †Levita Damaso Reyes
**Granddaughters:** †Velma Damaso Reyes
†Regie Toves

***Her spirit and memories will live within the hearts of her:***
**Children and Granchildren:**
***Antonio Aldan Delos Reyes***
Joann San Agustin-Quichocho and Juliet M. Reyes
**Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren:**
Jerome San Agustin Reyes and Rachel Q. Reyes
Jerome JR. and Joann Consolacion
Anthony San Agustin Reyes
Joleina and Gladnie
James San Agustin Reyes
James Jr., Jaranza, Jaydah
Audrey San Agustin and Derwin Perez/Children
Mark Adrian Pobelete and Family
Patrick Arriola
Frankie S. Camacho
Connie Grace Reyes and Family
Jacqueline M. Reyes and Anthony Esteves
Aleiyah Juni'ani and Ayden Jeremiah
Jonathan M. Reyes
Antonio Jr. M. Reyes and Mary Lou Atalig
Julie Ann M. Reyes
Simon Reyes
Kathleen M. Reyes
***Thomas Aldan Delos Reyes and Arlene Muna***
**Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren:**
Grettel D. Reyes
Valerie D. Reyes and Micheal H. Jackson
Romanika Lyve-ann
†Velma D. Reyes
Kyle Jay and Kody Jared
Verna D. Reyes and Christopher T. Camacho
Verisa Lyvea and Konah Christopher
Vivian D. Reyes and Louie Crisostomo
Donovan, Dylvan, Dylvana and Blayke Khyone
Tommy D. Reyes
Thomas D. Reyes
Brian Muna
Manuel Muna
***Joseph Aldan Delos Reyes and Margarita Muna Delos Reyes***
**Granchildren and Great Grandchildren:**
Rose Cecil M. Reyes and Sylvan M. Cabrera
Sylvan Jr., Consolacion Rose, Amelia Ann and Margaret Estella Rose
Joseph Jr. M. Reyes and Marisa Duenas
Jeffrey Roman M. Reyes and Amanda C. Sablan
Keoni, Margret Rose, Alexis Jade and Jeffrey Roman Jr.
Julian Nicolas M. Reyes and Jeding Matagolai
Roman M. Reyes
**Reared Daughters:**
Rosa DLR. Palacios and †Carlos Palacios/children
Ladonna DLR. Flores and John Flores /children
**Brothers and Sisters In-law:**
Antonio Castro Aldan and Edith Aldan/children
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Camacho
**Sisters and Brothers In-law:**
Domitilla Camacho Govendo and Judge Ken Govendo
Gabriella T. Deleon Guerrero and Jose Deleon Guerrero
**Brothers In-law and Sisters In-law:**
Emilia Delos Reyes Quidichai and †Joaquin Quidichai/children
Raphael Manahane Delos Reyes and Merced V. Delos Reyes/children

***She will always be remembered by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, godchildren, and friends.***

Nightly rosary is being said at 7:30pm at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Aldan Delos Reyes, Airport Road. On Friday, February 26, 2010, her remains will be transported from CHC Morgue at 3:00pm to her residence for an overnight viewing. Her body will be transported to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 12:30pm. Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 1:00pm at Mt. Carmel Cathedral and interment will follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Lunch will follow at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Aldan Delos Reyes.

***The presence and prayers of all families and friends are deeply appreciated!***

**Antonio, Thomas, Joseph, Daughters In-law, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren**

# Life & Style

## Rushdie to write book about decade in hiding

AP

Novelist Salman Rushdie pauses after a reporter's question during a tour of an exhibit of his papers at Emory University in Atlanta on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2010.

**ATLANTA** (AP)—Novelist Salman Rushdie said Tuesday he plans to write a book about his decade in hiding under a death threat from the Iranian government.

Rushdie discussed the planned book at Emory University, where an exhibit of the author's personal papers opens on Friday. He donated manuscripts, letters and photos to the school, which catalogued them and transferred them to digital form.

"It's my story, and at some point, it needs to be told," he said during a news conference before touring the exhibit with reporters. "That point is getting closer, I think. When it was in cardboard boxes and dead computers, it would have been very, very difficult, but now it's all organized."

Rushdie, 62, was forced into hiding in England for a decade because the Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran issued a 1989 fatwa, or religious edict, ordering Muslims to kill the author, saying his book, "The Satanic Verses," insulted Islam. The Iranian government declared in 1998 that it would not support the fatwa but could not rescind it.

Still, some hardline Muslim groups have protested Rushdie in recent years and threatened to boycott organizations that are associated with him. Rushdie has said the fatwa is more "a piece of rhetoric than a real threat" now.

Rushdie in 2006 gave Emory the collection of manuscripts from many of his novels, unpublished works, photos of him as a child and letters from public figures supporting him after the fatwa was issued. The archive will be open to the public.

Some of the items are being displayed in the exhibit, which runs through September. One wall is filled with Post-It notes he wrote while working on novels.

"I never realized my doodles would have been blown up to 3 feet tall," he said. "From the moment I agreed to do this, I knew it was going to be sort of embarrassing."

The India native is in the middle of a five-year stint as a distinguished lecturer at Emory.

"You get to sit in a room with intelligent, young people and talk about books you like. What's wrong with that?" he said of the experience.

Rushdie's novel "Midnight's Children" won Britain's Booker Prize, and was selected in 1993 as the best novel in 25 years of the Booker Prize.

He was knighted in 2007 by Queen Elizabeth II of England, the same year he divorced model and "Top Chef" host Padma Lakshmi after three years of marriage. He lives most of the year in England, where he is a citizen.

## Even without Tiger, golf can thrive on TV

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Television viewership will fall without Tiger Woods, but the networks that air the sport and the PGA Tour itself can handle the setback.

That's the word from several media analysts and the president of CBS Sports, which now is facing the possibility of covering the Masters Tournament just weeks from now with golf's biggest star conspicuously absent.

"We're all looking forward to him coming back, but until then we're doing perfectly fine," said Sean McManus, president of CBS News and Sports.

When Woods made his globally televised apology last Friday for serial infidelity, he said that "I do plan to return to golf one day, I just don't know when that day will be."

The statement leaves Woods with no deadline—so what will happen to the audience if he stays away from the course?

The first of four major tournaments on the PGA Tour, the Masters, which has long aired on CBS for the concluding rounds, ends April 11 this year. The U.S. Open follows in June on NBC. The British Open will be seen on ABC in July, and the PGA on CBS in August. Broadcast network coverage will be supplemented by coverage on cable networks.

Tournaments in which Woods isn't playing generally suffer a drop in viewership and a loss of advertising revenue, notes Larry Novenstern, executive vice president of Optimedia.

For the 15 or so tournaments where Woods might have been expected to play this year, Novenstern estimated the resulting advertising loss to networks would total between $10 million and $20 million. In comparison to other economic hardships challenging broadcasters right now, he says, "This is just a speed bump."

CBS' McManus agrees.

"Golf does better economically when Tiger is a major force on the PGA tour," he says, "but golf is still a valuable product for us."

This Feb. 17, 2009, photo provided by the Tiger Woods family shows, Sam, Elin, Tiger, and Charlie Woods, from left, and their dogs Yogi, left, and Taz posing in Orlando, Fla

AP

*In loving memory of*

# ANTONIO CAMACHO TENORIO

May 10, 1926 - February 16, 2010

*Lovingly known as "Tan Ton"*

was called to rest on February 16, 2010

**Masses of intentions are offered daily at six o'clock in the morning at Mount Carmel Cathedral.**

***Antonio Camacho Tenorio is survived his families:***

Evelyn J. Tenorio, Lynnette F. Tenorio and John I. Hirsh-Olivia and Mia Hirsh, Brenda Y. Tenorio and Fred Smith and numerous nephew and nieces.

***He was predeceased by his wife*** Janet S. Tenorio, and his parents, Juan Pangelinan Tenorio and Francisca Camacho Tenorio; ***his brothers, sisters, and in-laws:*** **Luis Camacho** and Rita S. Tenorio; **Albert Camacho** and Rita C. Tenorio; **Maria Tenorio** and Herman R. Guerrero; **Ana Camacho Tenorio**; **Cecilia Tenorio** and Manuel B. Sablan; **Jose Camacho** and Soledad T. Tenorio; **Santiago Camacho** and Maria S. Tenorio and **Froilan C. Tenorio**.

The body of the late Antonio Camacho Tenorio will leave Borja Funeral Home on Thursday, February 25, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. and will be received at Mount Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. followed immediately with burial at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

Appreciation lunch will be served at the Joeten Daidai Social Hall.

**Your thoughts and most especially your prayers are sincerely appreciated.**

**The Family**

# Olympics coverage gets 7 of top 8 Nielsen spots

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The Winter Olympics ruled in the ratings last week, treating NBC to an average audience roughly three times the size of its nearest rival, Fox.

NBC's coverage of the Winter Games held seven of the top eight spots for the week, the Nielsen Co. said Tuesday.

But Fox didn't come up empty. Its dual editions of "American Idol" placed fifth and ninth in the week's Top 10 rankings.

Tuesday's "Idol" drew more viewers than did NBC's Olympic action airing at the same time. During the Wednesday hour when the two shows went head-to-head, the Olympics were chosen by about 30 million viewers while more than 18 million tuned to "Idol."

Meanwhile, CBS' recently introduced reality show, "Undercover Boss," showed continuing strength by seizing 10th place with a hefty 13.8 million viewers.

Overall, NBC trampled its competition with an average of 24.8 million viewers (14.1 rating, 23 share) in its first full week of Olympics coverage, with the network surely cheered that another week awaits before the torch is doused.

Second-place Fox averaged 8.7 million viewers (5.0 rating, 8 share). Not far behind in third place was CBS, averaging 7.8 million (4.9 rating, 8 share)

ABC had 6.3 million (4.0 rating, 6 share), the CW had 1.4 million (0.9 rating, 1 share) and ION Television had 1.0 million (0.7 rating, 1 share).

Among the Spanish-language networks, Univision led with an average of 3.9 million viewers (1.9 rating, 3 share), while TeleFutura had 1.0 million (0.5 rating, 1 share), Telemundo had 990,000 (0.5 rating, 1 share), and Azteca had 170,000 (0.1 rating, 0 share).

As usual, NBC's "Nightly News" won the evening newscast race with an average of 11.1 million viewers (7.2 rating, 13 share). "ABC World News" was runner-up with 8.0 million (5.4 rating, 10 share), and the "CBS Evening News" had 6.4 million (4.3 rating, 8 share).

A ratings point represents 1,149,000 households, or 1 percent of the nation's estimated 114.9 million TV homes. The share is the percentage of in-use televisions tuned to a given show.

For the week of Feb. 15-21, the top 10 shows, their networks and viewerships: Winter Olympics (Wednesday), NBC, 29.4 million; Winter Olympics (Saturday), NBC, 26.7 million; Winter Olympics (Monday), NBC, 25.2 million; Winter Olympics (Thursday), NBC, 24.8 million; "American Idol" (Tuesday), Fox, 23.9 million; Winter Olympics (Friday), NBC, 23.30 million; Winter Olympics (Sunday), NBC, 23.29 million; Winter Olympics (Tuesday), NBC, 20.3 million; "American Idol" (Wednesday), Fox, 18.6 million; "Undercover Boss," CBS, 13.8 million.

# ABC News announces staff cutbacks, restructuring

**NEW YORK** (AP)—ABC News staffers got a memorandum Tuesday that promises to leave no part of the organization untouched, and will lead to massive personnel reductions by the end of 2010.

Although the memo from ABC News President David Westin specified no numbers, it was believed the goal for cutbacks is as high as one-quarter of the ABC News staff, which currently totals about 1,400.

"We will likely have substantially fewer people on staff at ABC News," Westin said in his memo.

He said personnel reductions would begin with voluntary buyouts to be offered employees in the days ahead. If the target number isn't reached, layoffs will likely follow.

AP

In this undated publicity image released by ABC, Diane Sawyer anchor of "World News with Diane Sawyer, is shown on the set in New York.

"We anticipate that between now and the end of the year, ABC News will undergo a fundamental transformation that will ultimately affect every corner of the enterprise," Westin said.

The memo listed several provisions of the news division's restructuring plan, including an expanded use of digital journalists (who both produce and shoot their own stories), the combination of weekday and weekend operations for both "Good Morning America" and "World News," and, at the newsmagazines and other long-form programming, "a more flexible blend of staff and freelancers."

"The time has come to anticipate change, rather than respond to it," Westin said in the memo.

In a phone interview, Westin would not disclose his cost-saving objective, and would say only that the projected staff reduction would exceed the 140 range.

He said the plan had been ironed out in the past three or four months, a period during which "we wanted to think it through and get it right."

He said three factors prompted Tuesday's announcement.

The economic downtown in the advertising market last year "focused the mind quickly on the business realities we face," he said.

This was followed by the realization that the newsgathering business is going through irreversible changes in the digital age.

Third, he said innovations in technology offered "not a just a challenge but an opportunity" to do more with fewer people and "get to stories you couldn't get to with a traditional crew."

"I would not be pursuing this if I thought we would be compromising the news," Westin said.

At the same time, he acknowledged that the transformation would be painful for many.

# CBS fights '04 Jackson 'wardrobe malfunction' fine

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—After six years of legal wrangling and one Supreme Court review of Janet Jackson's infamous Super Bowl "wardrobe malfunction," CBS argued anew Tuesday that it should not be held responsible for the half-second of nudity.

The 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia had thrown out the FCC's $550,000 fine against CBS as arbitrary, only to have the U.S. Supreme Court kick it back down for review. The Supreme Court pointed to its ruling in a Fox Television-led challenge, when it said the FCC could threaten fines over the use of a single curse word on live TV.

The FCC argued Tuesday that CBS was duly warned that its 2004 halftime performers might add some shock value to the act. Jackson's choreographer had promised as much, FCC lawyer Jacob Lewis said. During the act, singer Justin Timberlake ripped off Jackson's bustier, exposing her breast for nine-sixteenths of a second.

"There were considerable alarm bells about deviating from the script," Lewis told the 3rd Circuit panel. "CBS had a duty to investigate."

CBS complained that the FCC had previously applied the same decency standards to words and images—and excused fleeting instances of both.

Judge Marjorie Rendell seemed to agree, noting that the FCC could have stated in its rules that nudity was another thing entirely from bad language.

"(The FCC) had the opportunity to say nudity is different. They didn't," she said. "I'm trying to figure out how CBS or anyone else can be put on notice ... when the FCC does not draw any distinction at all between the two fleeting things."

Lewis replied that the duration of the offense is not the only factor, but must be weighed along with the content of the material, in this case Jackson's bare breast.

"They have no argument that the image was not indecent," he said. "While fleeting, it was patently offensive."

The three-judge panel is the same one that heard CBS' original appeal of the FCC fine, siding with the network in 2008. The judges noted the Supreme Court's directive to review their handiwork. Yet they peppered CBS for other angles that might support their decision.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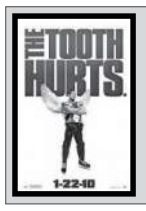
Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00
Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Ruffalo
Thriller • Rated R
Synopsis
Mark Ruffalo and Leonardo DiCaprio team up as a pair of U.S. Marshals who travel to a secluded island off the coast of Massachusetts to search for an escaped mental patient, uncovering a web of deception along the way as they battle the forces of nature and a prison riot in this Martin Scorsese-helmed period picture. Laeta Kalogridis adapts Dennis Lehane's novel of the same name, with Paramount Pictures and Columbia Pictures splitting production and distribution duties.

The Lightning Thief
Friday 4:20 7:10 9:40
Saturday 1:30 4:20 7:10 9:40
Sunday 1:30 4:20 7:10
Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:10
Logan Lerman, Pierce Brosnan
Fantasy • Rated PG
Synopsis
Throuble-prone Percy Jackson is having problem in high school–but that's the least of his challenges. It's the 21st century, but the gods of Mount Olympus seem to have walked out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology texts and into his life. Percy has learned that his real father is Poseidon, god of the sea, which means Percy is a demigod–half human, half god. At the same time, Zeus, the king of all gods, has accused Percy of stealing Zeus' lightning bolt...the original weapon of mass destruction.

The Wolfman
Friday 4:10 7:30 9:35
Saturday 1:20 4:10 7:30 9:35
Sunday 1:20 4:10 7:30
Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:30
Benicio del Toro, Anthony Hopkins
Horror • Rated R
Synopsis
Universal Studios resurrects the classic lycanthrope with this tale of an American who experiences an unsettling transformation after returning to his ancestral home in Victorian-era Great Britain and being attacked by a rampaging werewolf. His brother having recently vanished without a trace, haunted nobleman Lawrence Talbot (Benicio Del Toro) returns to his family estate to investigate. What he discovers upon reuniting with his estranged father (Anthony Hopkins), however, is a destiny far darker than his blackest nightmares.

From Paris With Love
Friday 4:15 7:25 9:30
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:25 9:30
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:25
Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:25
John Travolta, Jonathan Rhys-Meyers
Crime • Rated R

Valentine's Day
Friday 4:30 7:20 9:50
Saturday 1:10 4:30 7:20 9:50
Sunday 1:10 4:30 7:20
Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:20
Julia Roberts, Anne Hathaway
Comedy • Rated PG 13



The Tooth Fairy
Friday 4:05 7:05 9:55
Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:55
Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05
Dwayne Johnson, Ashley Judd
Comedy Drama • Rated PG

Avatar
Friday 3:55 6:55 10:00
Saturday 12:50 3:55 6:55 10:00
Sunday 12:50 3:55 6:55
Mon thru Thurs 3:55 6:55
Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana
Science Fiction • Rated PG 13

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# 'Idol' judges admire unique female semifinalists

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—"American Idol" semifinalist Lilly Scott is right where she belongs.

The 20-year-old singer from Denver was among a handful of unique crooners who impressed the Fox singing contest's judges Tuesday. The platinum-haired street musician played the guitar during her original take on The Beatles' "Fixing a Hole" during the ninth season's first semifinal round, which featured performances from the top 12 female semifinalists.

"You come from the heart," said Kara DioGuardi, wearing a blue dress almost the same shade as the "Idol" set.

Originality was key to dazzling the judges. Other standouts included earthy 24-year-old mother Crystal Bowersox from Toledo, Ohio, and quirky 19-year-old glass blower Siobhan Magnus from Marstons Mills, Mass. A subdued Magnus transformed Chris Isaak's "Wicked Game" while dreadlocked Bowersox pleased the panel with Alanis Morissette's "Hand in My Pocket."

"I think we are lucky you decided to audition for 'Idol' and be here," beamed Ellen DeGeneres.

AP

In this publicity image released by Fox, the 12 female finalists for the ninth season of the reality singing competetion, "American Idol," seated from left, Katelyn Epperly, Lilly Scott, Ashley Rodriguez, Lacey Brown, Janell Wheeler, Haeley Vaughn and, standing from left, Didi Benami, Michelle Delamor, Katie Stevens, Crystal Bowersox, Paige Miles and Soibhan Magnus, are shown.

The wisecracking talk show host, who took her place on the panel during "Hollywood Week," was mostly serious during her first performance episode as judge, only unleashing a few barbs. Unlike previous episodes, DeGeneres was seated at the opposite end from Simon Cowell, a move that DeGeneres mocked was prompted by the "wandering hands" of the touchy judge.

"I felt like it's safer over here," she teased.

Song selection, however, proved riskier on Tuesday's episode. The judges were particularly turned off by the uninspired renditions of Fleetwood Mac's "Landslide" from spunky 24-year-old event coordinator Lacey Brown, of Amarillo, Texas, and Leona Lewis' "Happy" from intrepid 22-year-old college student Ashley Rodriguez from Chelsea, Mass.

"I think you're going backward," Cowell informed Rodriguez.

The judges were split on several singers, including twangy 16-year-old high school student Haeley Vaughn from Fort Collins, Colo. Randy Jackson praised the guitar-strumming Vaughn's "unpredictability" and DeGeneres told Vaughn "you just shine," but Cowell proclaimed that her version of The Beatles' "I Want to Hold Your Hand" was "verging on terrible."

"You're very pure," DioGuardi soothed a smiling Vaughn.

The top 12 male semifinalists—including last-minute semifinalist replacement 20-year-old college student Tim Urban from Duncanville, Texas—will take the stage for Wednesday's episode. The two female contestants and two male contestants with the lowest viewer votes are slated to be eliminated live Thursday.

# Publicist: Charlie Sheen enters rehab

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Charlie Sheen's publicist announced Tuesday the actor has entered rehab and is taking a break from television's top-rated comedy, "Two and a Half Men," prompting the network to announce it is temporarily halting production of the show.

"As a preventative measure, Charlie Sheen has entered a rehabilitation facility," publicist Stan Rosenfield wrote in a four-sentence statement that did not specify why Sheen, 44, was seeking treatment. The statement sought privacy for the embattled actor.

Sheen's bosses expressed support for the actor in a statement that said production of "Two and a Half Men" would temporarily stop.

"CBS, Warner Bros. Television and (Executive Producer) Chuck Lorre support Charlie Sheen in his decision today to begin voluntary inpatient care at a treatment center," the statement said. "We wish him nothing but the best as he deals with this personal matter."

The statement offered no timetable for when the show would resume taping.

The move comes roughly two months after Sheen was arrested after a fight with his wife at his Aspen, Colo., home. Prosecutors later charged the actor with felony menacing and misdemeanor charges of third-degree assault and criminal mischief. The most serious charge carries a maximum three-year prison term.

Assistant District Attorney Arnold Mordkin said Tuesday he had not heard about Sheen entering rehab and could not discuss what bearing it might have on the case.

AP

This Jan. 28, 2009 file photo shows Charlie Sheen in Los Angeles.

Sheen's wife, Brooke, is also in rehab seeking treatment for an undisclosed reason, her attorney Yale Galanter said Monday. She is still asking that the charges be dismissed, he said.

Galanter and Rosenfield confirmed Monday that Los Angeles child protective services workers visited the actor and the couple's infant sons over the weekend. Galanter and Rosenfield said it was a routine, previously scheduled visit related to the Aspen court case.

Galanter did not immediately return a phone message Tuesday.

Until Tuesday, Charlie Sheen's legal problems hadn't disrupted taping of "Two and a Half Men," one of CBS' top shows and television's top-rated comedy.

The comedy was averaging 14.7 million weekly viewers before Charlie Sheen's arrest. Recent new episodes have drawn nearly 18 million viewers, and 10.6 million people tuned in last week for a rerun, according to ratings released by the Nielsen Co.

The show, about the romances and family life of two brothers (Sheen and Jon Cryer), is the anchor of CBS' Monday comedy lineup, which also includes "The Big Bang Theory" and "How I Met Your Mother."

In early January, CBS Entertainment President Nina Tassler said the network was being sensitive to what it considered a "very personal and private matter for Charlie."

# Sutherland set to return to '24' after surgery

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The clock will start ticking again for "24" when Kiefer (KEE'-fur) Sutherland returns to the set Monday after surgery that shut down filming of the Fox network thriller for two weeks.

A statement released Tuesday from Twentieth Century Fox Television says Sutherland has been cleared to return to work.

The studio says no disruption is expected in the airing schedule. The show began its eighth season last month.

Neither the studio nor Sutherland's representative has commented on the nature of Sutherland's ailment. The Los Angeles Times first reported the production halt and says Sutherland suffered from a ruptured cyst near his kidney.

Sutherland plays counterterrorism hero Jack Bauer on the series.

# Widower's new confidante is resented by daughter and son

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My mother recently passed away. She and Dad were married 52 happy years. Over the years, Mom received a few Christmas cards from "Linda," my brother's girlfriend 30 years ago.

Dad found Linda's address and let her know about Mom's passing. Now he says he and Linda have become good friends. Dad says they're "only friends" and Linda is someone he can talk to. We are very upset about whatever relationship they have. My brother and I and our children want to be the ones to comfort Dad and be comforted by him. It has been only two months since Mom's death.

He talks to Linda about everything. They have even discussed the details of Mom's grave marker. Linda says Dad is the father she never had. (Her father is still living.) I confronted Dad about it, and we had a huge argument. Are we wrong and insensitive for disapproving of his closeness with this woman?

FALLING APART IN TEXAS

**DEAR FALLING APART: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your mother. You and your brother and children may want to be the ones to comfort your father (and be comforted by him), but what he may feel he needs right now is someone he can talk to who is not emotionally involved and doesn't need comforting.**

**You didn't do anything wrong, but please remember that you are all grieving right now, and when people are grieving, their emotions are raw. This situation will work itself out in time, but until it does, please remember that your father can talk to whomever he pleases.**

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 13 years and have two children, 7 and 9. About a year ago, my 41-year-old husband befriended an 11-year-old neighbor girl, "Lacey." Lacey is charming, friendly and plays with my children.

I like her and her family, but I'm bothered that she and my husband have a relationship that seems questionable to me and his friends. Lacey texts him daily, to which he quickly responds. They have conversations in our driveway, and they text each other constantly at neighborhood socials even though they're in the same room.

I have told my husband I am concerned and that it may be an unhealthy relationship, but he becomes angry and insulted and says it's an innocent friendship. Others have also voiced their concerns to him because they see the same things I do. On the other hand, her parents think the friendship is innocent.

Abby, am I overreacting? Should I view it as an innocent friendship, or could there really be a problem?

WORRIED WIFE DOWN SOUTH

**DEAR WORRIED: I don't think you're overreacting in light of the fact that other adults are picking up on the "vibes" and making comments. I find it of concern that Lacey doesn't have playmates her own age. It appears she has a crush on your husband, and he finds it flattering and is encouraging her.**

**While the conversations in the driveway may be completely innocent, the idea that they are texting each other makes me uncomfortable. My advice is to have a frank talk with Lacey's mother and express your concerns, because while what's going on may be innocent, it is not appropriate. The older male figure in her life should be her father.**

■■■

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

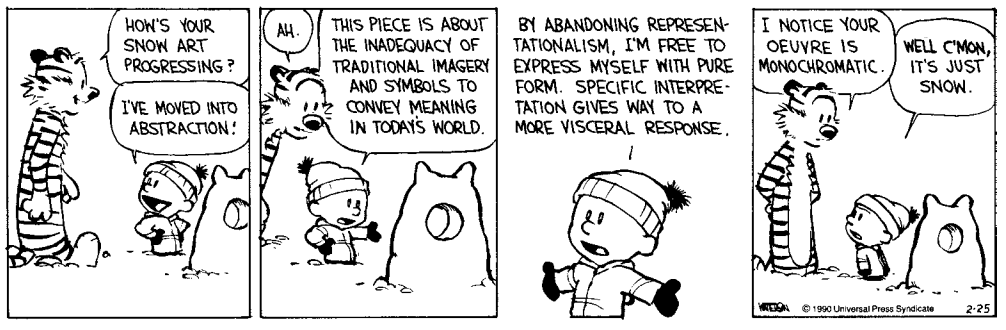
■■■

*To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

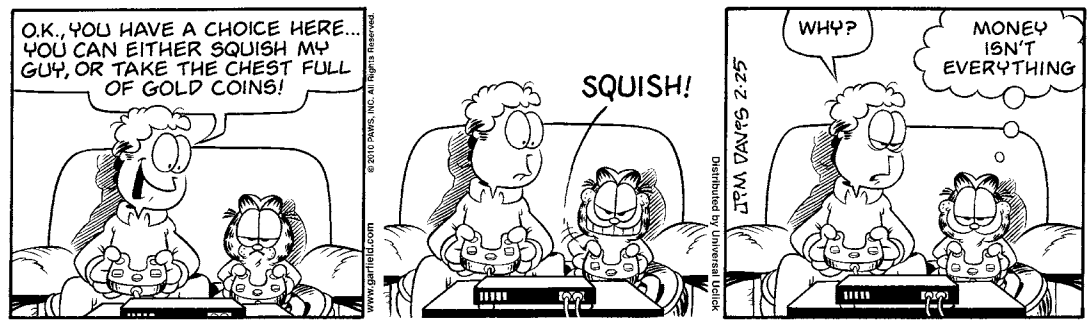
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HOW'S YOUR SNOW ART PROGRESSING?
I'VE MOVED INTO ABSTRACTION!
AH.
THIS PIECE IS ABOUT THE INADEQUACY OF TRADITIONAL IMAGERY AND SYMBOLS TO CONVEY MEANING IN TODAY'S WORLD.
BY ABANDONING REPRESENTATIONALISM, I'M FREE TO EXPRESS MYSELF WITH PURE FORM. SPECIFIC INTERPRETATION GIVES WAY TO A MORE VISCERAL RESPONSE.
I NOTICE YOUR OEUVRE IS MONOCHROMATIC.
WELL C'MON, IT'S JUST SNOW.
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate
2-25

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis


O.K., YOU HAVE A CHOICE HERE... YOU CAN EITHER SQUISH MY GUY, OR TAKE THE CHEST FULL OF GOLD COINS!
SQUISH!
WHY?
MONEY ISN'T EVERYTHING
JIM DAVIS 2-25
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www.garfield.com
Distributed by Universal Uclick

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

YOU'RE USING FACEBOOK TO BETTER CONNECT WITH CLIENTS?
RIGHT. IT'LL INCREASE MY EXPOSURE.
2-25
GOOD IDEA, DAD. BUT IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU SELECT THE RIGHT PROFILE PHOTO OF YOURSELF.
AND THIS ISN'T IT?
WELL...TO ME IT JUST SEEMS LIKE A LOT OF SPANDEX FOR ONE GUY TO WEAR.
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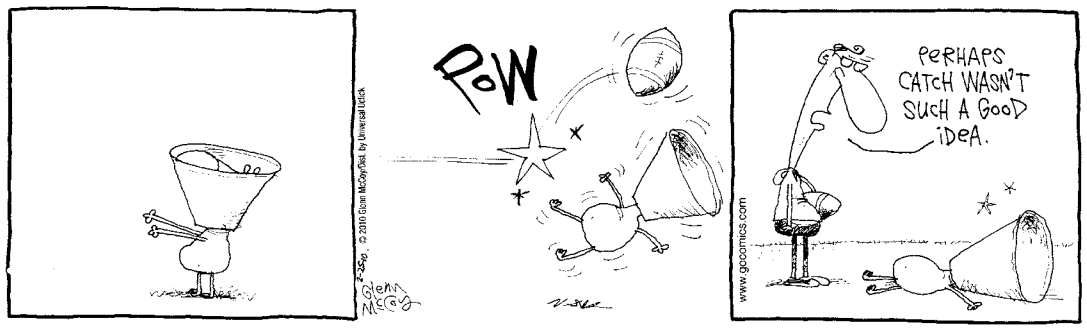
www.gocomics.com

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy




## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Not barefoot
5 Highlander's hat
8 Eject
12 Proofreader's catch
13 Ortiz of "Ugly Betty"
14 Multinational money
15 The same, in a bibliography
16 Family
17 Being, to Brutus
18 Cookbook entry
20 Snacks (on)
22 Pinch
23 Listending abbr.
24 Building block name
27 Fairway shot
32 Tramcar contents
33 Marseille monarch
34 Fish eggs
35 Inventor, often
38 Pack cargo
39 Crafty
40 Chinese tea
42 "Thanks —!"
45 Impede
49 "Yikes!"
50 Savings-plan acronym
52 Showroom sample
53 Existed
54 Neither mate
55 Settled down
56 Studio constructions
57 Stick with a kick
58 Lo-cal

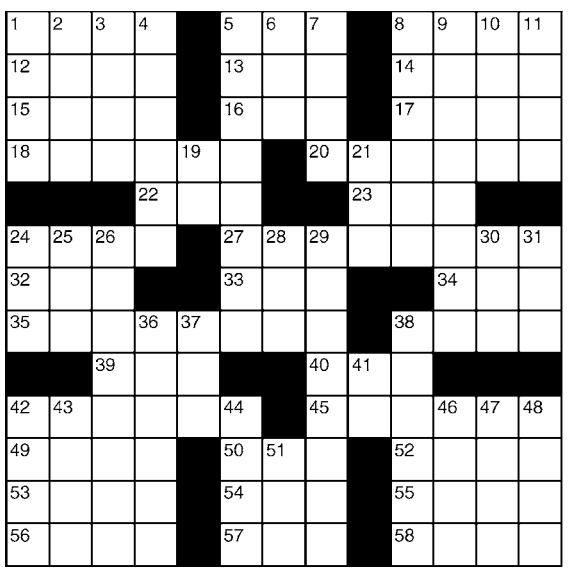
**DOWN**

1 Use a teaspoon
2 Stevenson villain
3 Cartel acronym
4 Mardi Gras mask
5 Join in
6 Singer DiFranco
7 Herbie of jazz
8 Tends
9 Vendor's wagon
10 Gaelic
11 Travails
19 Common ratio
21 "— the ramparts ..."
24 Prune
25 Mound stat
26 Carell/Hathaway movie
28 "Ulalume" writer
29 "USA Today" graphic
30 Bill's partner
31 Chop
36 Gets away from
37 Big Apple
38 Summer shoe
41 Greeting
42 Wields a needle
43 Curved molding
44 Intimation
46 Party-platter preparer
47 Send forth
48 Repetitive routine
51 Director Howard

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | R | C | O | ■ | A | L | P | ■ | A | L | S | O |
| G | I | L | L | ■ | B | O | O | ■ | L | O | A | D |
| H | E | A | D | C | A | S | E | ■ | I | N | T | O |
| A | L | P | H | A | ■ | ■ | M | E | A | G | E | R |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | A | R | T | S | ■ | A | S | S | ■ | ■ |
| P | E | S | T | ■ | S | E | C | S | ■ | U | F | O |
| E | M | U | ■ | K | A | P | U | T | ■ | I | O | U |
| P | S | I | ■ | I | R | I | S | ■ | S | T | E | T |
| ■ | ■ | T | O | W | ■ | A | P | S | E | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| H | E | C | T | I | C | ■ | ■ | A | L | G | A | E |
| U | T | A | H | ■ | H | E | A | D | L | O | N | G |
| M | U | S | E | ■ | A | W | L | ■ | E | T | N | A |
| P | I | E | R | ■ | T | E | E | ■ | R | O | O | D |

Yesterday's answer 2-25



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Sean Astin, 39; Tea Leoni, 44; Tom Courtenay, 73; Sally Jessy Raphael, 75

**Happy Birthday**: Make this a year to remember. Travel for business or pleasure should be considered, along with expanding your circle of friends and taking on some interesting new hobby or activity. There is plenty you can do to raise your earning potential. Invest in yourself and your skills. You will make progress regardless but, with effort, you can do even better. Your numbers are 9, 11, 17, 22, 25, 34, 48

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Do what you can to fix up your domestic environment. A change of plans may come about suddenly; try not to let whatever happens stop you from enjoying time spent with family, friends or your lover. ✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Keep busy, especially when you are around home and dealing with family or friends. Tempers will mount if you are too aggressive or stubborn. Focus on what you can do for those less fortunate. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): A sincere offering of the way you feel and what you intend to do will enable you to turn a problem you face into a positive experience. Don't let anyone take advantage of your kindness, generosity or your skills. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): You can make some serious changes that will alter your life forever. An unusual opportunity must not be passed by because of fears. A partnership you are involved in will take an upward swing if you are willing to try something new. ✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You will inspire others to support your efforts. Money, adventure and travel can all bring about new friendships and the possibility of financial gains. A love relationship will grow if you are attentive. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): What you have to offer will lead to all sorts of benefits—personally, emotionally and financially. Opportunities to get involved with people you respect are apparent and will aid you in reaching some of your long-time goals. Love is up for grabs. ✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Expect to be deluged with all sorts of changes where work, friendships and your lifestyle are concerned. You cannot skip a beat or you will miss out on an unusual and gratifying experience. ✪✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You'll be torn between the good and the bad. Don't let the bad overrule what you do. Getting angry will defeat the purpose and cause you to miss out on an interesting opportunity that can change your life. Focus on the pluses. ✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You may have to pull up stakes and make a move if you want to stay on top of your finances. Don't expect friends or family to help you out or you will be disappointed. Make decisions based on facts, figures and what will serve you best. ✪✪✪

**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Look at the people you have associated with in the past before you decide to make a change. Partnering with someone you know you can trust will make your job much easier. An old friend will help you make a good choice. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take advantage of a job offer. You will have a gut feeling that will enable you to make a good choice regarding a financially beneficial partnership or move. Your ability to excel will push you to greater heights. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Your instincts are good and your ability to attract attention will drum up personal and professional interest. Enjoy the time you spend with friends, colleagues and your lover. Each will offer you good suggestions. ✪✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You lean toward the unusual. You can mimic and become whatever you put your mind to. Your keen sense of perception gives you great insight.

*Eugenia's Web sites:* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 7 | | | 2 | | | 6 | |
| 5 | | | 7 | | 6 | | | 1 |
| | | | 1 | | | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | 5 | 1 | |
| 7 | | | | 3 | | | | 6 |
| | 8 | 5 | | | | | 2 | |
| | | | | | 8 | | | |
| 6 | | | 3 | | 4 | | | 7 |
| | 2 | | | 1 | | | 5 | |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 2/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 |
| 8 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 2 |
| 2 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 3 |
| 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 9 |
| 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 4 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 7 |
| 1 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
| 9 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 8 |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 2/24

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BRITTANY MURPHY (1977-2009) **Solution: 8 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | B | A | I | F | O | U | R | E | T | S | I | S | N | P |
| O | L | S | S | Y | P | P | A | H | E | N | N | A | U | L |
| L | E | N | W | A | H | S | E | R | D | O | G | I | P | A |
| L | S | A | L | C | I | R | E | E | S | R | N | U | T | T |
| Y | S | E | O | N | A | H | N | L | O | T | D | F | O | T |
| O | E | J | V | M | C | O | E | M | E | E | N | R | W | E |
| B | D | S | E | T | D | K | E | R | I | H | A | A | N | R |
| D | E | N | U | N | R | D | R | R | T | N | L | S | N | S |
| O | H | K | A | O | I | U | R | O | I | H | R | I | U | I |
| O | C | B | T | C | P | A | R | T | Y | I | E | E | G | T |
| G | A | F | A | T | M | N | S | C | A | I | D | R | A | C |
| I | D | L | E | T | E | I | P | M | A | C | N | A | V | O |
| R | R | D | S | E | R | N | M | O | S | S | O | L | B | M |
| L | O | U | U | H | T | H | O | L | L | Y | W | O | O | D |
| E | J | Q | C | O | M | M | O | N | G | R | O | U | N | D |

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Abandoned, Baifour, Blessed, Blossom, Cardiac, Christina, Common Ground, Eric, Feet, Frasier, Girl, Good Boy, Gunn, Happy, Hollywood, Interrupted, Jeans, Jordache, Just Married, Kutcher, Love, Luanne, Medical, Molly, Morgan, Party, Platter, Queen, Roth, Shawn, Sister, Sitcom, The Ramen, Torkelsons, Uptown, Vancamp, Wonderland

**Yesterday's Answer: Keratin**

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just $4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Uclick. Include $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.

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WHATZIT Solution: Move heaven and earth


**DRUNK DRIVING**
*Over the limit. Under arrest.*


**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Opening Date:** Wednesday, January 6, 2010 **Closing Date:** Until Filled

| JVA NO. | Position Title | Positions | Salary | Contract | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10-006 | Dep. Dir. for Water Wastewater | One | Un-graded; Negotiable | Two-year | Water Wastewater, Saipan |

**Opening Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2010 **Closing Date:** March 4, 2010

| JVA NO. | Position Title | Positions | Salary | Contract | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10-015 | Technical Manager for Oil (TMO) | One | $79,616 - $88,462; | Two-year | Administration, Saipan |

**For more information about the position(s) being advertised, please stop by the Human Resources Office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.**

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**San Vicente School Community Based Management Inc.**
has a temporary, part-time job opening:

Requirements: Must have a police and health clearance
Hours: 9:00-11:30am and 12:30-2:30pm (4.5 hrs a day)
Hourly rate: $7.50 per hour
Days: School days Monday through Friday
Length of employment: To the end of school year 09-10 or until funding is exhausted, whichever is first.
Duties: Assist teachers at the San Vicente Aquaculture Science Center by assisting with biological controls, and safety supervision.
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# Kobe scores 32 in return as Lakers beat Grizzlies

**MEMPHIS, Tenn.** (AP)—Hitting a game-winning shot never gets old for Kobe Bryant.

"Every time it feels like the first time," he said.

Bryant returned to lineup after missing five games with an ankle injury and made a 3-pointer with 4.3 seconds left to lift the Los Angeles Lakers to 99-98 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies Tuesday night.

Bryant led the Lakers with 32 points, including his team's final nine points. His 3-pointer with 54 seconds left tied the game at 96-all. His game-winner came off an inbounds play 4 seconds after his layup attempt was blocked by Rudy Gay.

"He kept making plays at the end of the game," Memphis coach Lionel Hollins said of Bryant. "Great players make great plays. You've got to give him his due (but) it hurts."

Bryant's late scoring spree came after the Lakers had missed five straight free throws and trailed, 95-90, with 2:59 left. He began his nine-point run with a jumper from the left wing with 2:23 to go to trim the Memphis lead to 95-92.

After Gay's free throw, Bryant dropped in a technical free throw to make it 96-93. Gay scored again with 40 seconds left to up the Grizzlies lead to 98-93 before Bryant's back-to-back 3-pointers won it for the Lakers.

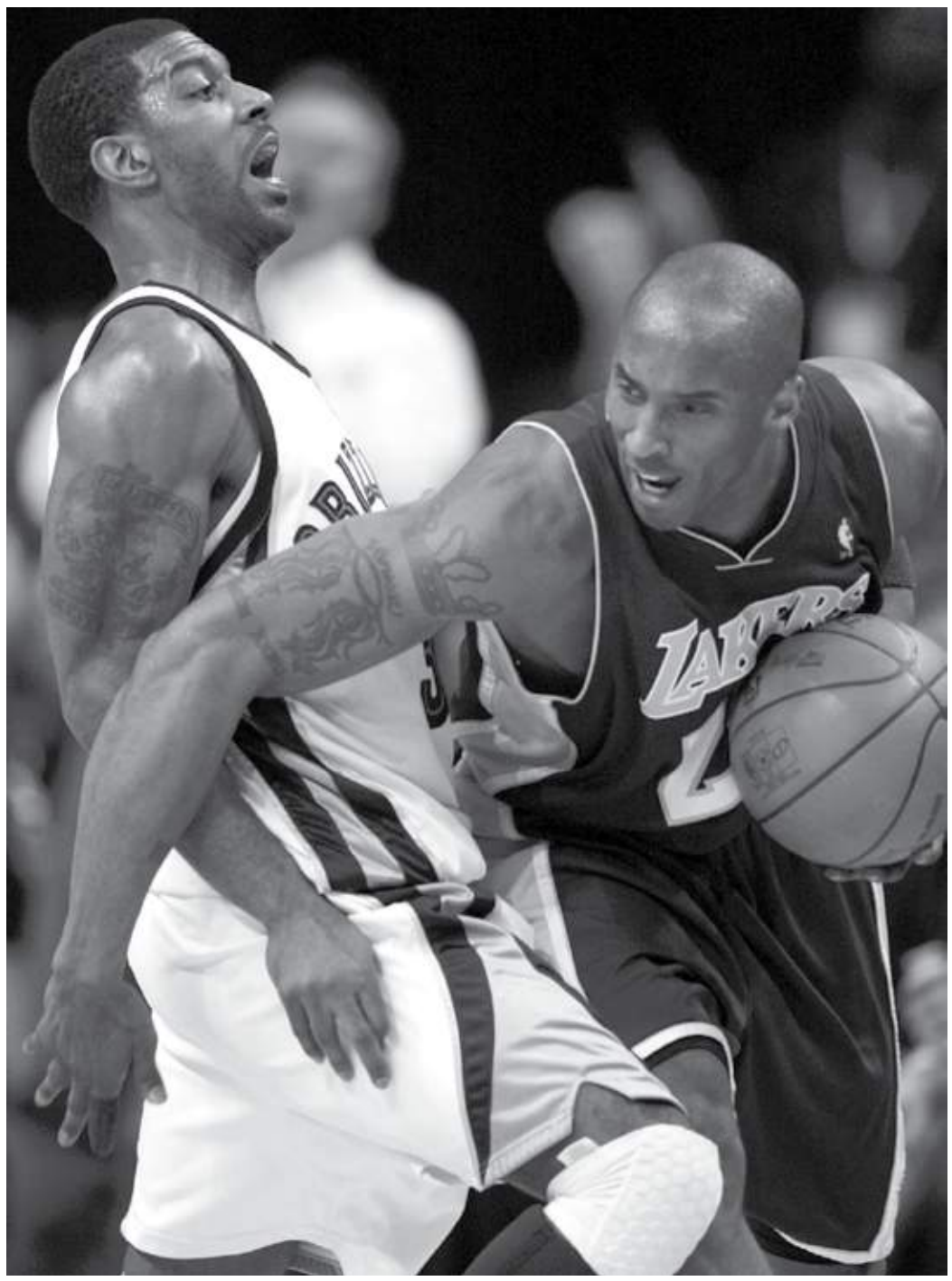
"Only in Hollywood, I guess," Bryant said. "It's fun. It's my responsibility to make plays down the stretch. I enjoy it."

Pau Gasol added 22 points and 13 rebounds for the Lakers, who won for the seventh time in their last eight road games.

"Nobody in the world is shocked anymore by what Kobe Bryant does and what he brings to the team," Gasol said. "He really stepped up at the end. It feels good to have him back."

The Grizzlies, who lost their fifth straight home game, were led by O.J. Mayo's 25 points. Zach Randolph scored 20 and grabbed 14 rebounds, his seventh straight double-double.

Mayo's two missed free throws with 18.8 seconds allowed the Lakers an opportunity to complete a comeback from nine points down early in the fourth quarter. Had Mayo made his free throws, the Grizzlies would have led by four.



AP

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, right, tries to find an open man under pressure by Memphis Grizzlies guard O.J. Mayo, left, in the second half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2010 in Memphis, Tenn.

"I'd love to take those last two free throws again," Mayo said. "I'd love to take them and make them."

Mayo had a last-second opportunity to win it for the Grizzlies, but his long jumper bounced off the rim as the buzzer sounded.

Absent from the Lakers lineup for his longest stretch in five years, Bryant scored nine points in the opening quarter, including a four-point play, and triggered a late first-quarter run with two breakaway dunks to increase the Lakers lead to 11.

Bryant last played Feb. 5 and Los Angeles went 4-1 without him.

The Grizzlies took their first lead early in the third quarter on a 3-pointer by Mayo for a 59-56 advantage and didn't trail again until Bryant's game-winning shot.

Bryant, averaging 42.5 points against Memphis in two previous games this season, began his late nine-point run with a jumper from the left wing with 2:23 to go to trim the Memphis lead to 95-92.

With Bryant scoring 17 of his points in the first half, the Lakers built several 14-point leads before settling for a 53-48 halftime advantage.

"We gave ourselves an opportunity to win the game," Hollins said. "But Kobe was better. That's the bottom line."

### Cavaliers 105, Hornets 95

In Cleveland, the Cleveland Cavaliers returned to winning ways after a rare three-game losing skid, beating the New Orleans Hornets.

LeBron James had 20 points and 12 assists, and Antawn Jamison scored 18 points in his first start for Cleveland, which stayed half a game ahead of the Los Angeles Lakers in the fight over the NBA's best record.

James closed out the win in the final two minutes, hitting a 3-pointer and finishing a three-point play to allow the Cavaliers to escape a huge night from New Orleans' rookies: Marcus Thornton and Darren Collison combined for 59 points, including a franchise-record 23 from Thornton in the second quarter.

Thornton scored a career-high 37 off the bench, igniting a 40-point second quarter for the Hornets by making his first five shots and 10 of 13 in the quarter.

### Suns 104, Thunder 102

In Oklahoma City, Jason Richardson connected on a floater from the foul line with 0.7 seconds left to complete Phoenix's rally from a 10-point deficit to edge Oklahoma City.

Amare Stoudemire scored 30 points and Richardson had his first double-double of the season with 20 points and 13 rebounds for the Suns, who were down 10 with 3-1/2 minutes to play.

Kevin Durant scored 36 points for the Thunder, whose nine-game winning streak came to an end.

Phoenix moved past the Thunder into fifth place in the Western Conference.

### Celtics 110, Knicks 106

In Boston, Rajon Rondo scored 15 points and had 16 assists to lead Boston over New York.

Ray Allen added 24 points as the Celtics sent the Knicks to their eighth straight loss.

David Lee had 28 points and 15 rebounds for New York.

### Timberwolves 91, Heat 88

In Miami, Minnesota took advantage of Dwyane Wade's absence for a rare road victory over Miami.

Kevin Love had 17 points and 12 rebounds and Jonny Flynn added 16 points for the Timberwolves, who snapped a six-game losing streak.

Dorell Wright had a career-high 26 points off the bench to lead the Heat, who played their third straight game without Wade, the All-Star MVP who is nursing a calf strain.

### Pistons 101, Kings 89

In Sacramento, California, Detroit pulled away in the third quarter to defeat struggling Sacramento.

After taking a 12-point lead in halftime, Hamilton keyed a third-quarter effort that hiked the Pistons' advantage to 30 at one point. Hamilton finished with 30 points.

Tyreke Evans had 28 points and a career-high 13 assists for the Kings, who have dropped five straight since the All-Star break.

### Trail Blazers 102, Nets 93

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Portland avoided blowing a big lead for a second straight game by holding off New Jersey.

Brandon Roy scored 10 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter and LaMarcus Aldridge added 27 points as the Blazers learned the lessons of squandering a 25-point lead in Sunday's loss to Utah.

Courtney Lee and Devin Harris led the Nets with 28 points apiece. The total matched Lee's career high set earlier this season and was a season high for Harris.

### 76ers 110, Warriors 102

In Oakland, California, Lou Williams scored 26 points, including a clinching 3-pointer with 14.5 seconds left, as Philadelphia downed Golden State.

Williams matched his career high with five 3-pointers and had 10 rebounds and seven assists, while Andre Iguodala added 22 points and seven assists, as the Sixers won in their first game since guard Allen Iverson took an indefinite leave of absence to be with his ill daughter.

Philadelphia led by 17 going into the fourth quarter but had to withstand a late flurry from Golden State.

Monta Ellis had 22 points for the Warriors, who pulled within 105-102 with 39 seconds remaining. A Williams 3-pointer and two free throws sealed it for the Sixers.

# Jayson Williams gets 5 years in fatal NJ shooting

**SOMERVILLE, N.J.** (AP)—Former NBA star Jayson Williams was sentenced to five years in prison Tuesday for fatally shooting a hired limo driver in 2002, ending an eight-year legal odyssey by tearfully apologizing to the victim's family. He will be eligible for parole in 18 months.

Williams, avoiding a retrial on a reckless manslaughter count that deadlocked the jury at his 2004 trial, pleaded guilty last month to aggravated assault in the death of Costas Christofi on Feb. 14, 2002. At the same 2004 trial, he was acquitted of aggravated manslaughter but convicted on four counts of covering up the shooting.

The sentences on the assault and cover-up counts will run concurrently. State Superior Court Judge Edward Coleman went along with a plea agreement that spelled out the five-year prison sentence and the potential for Williams to be released as early as summer 2011.

In court Tuesday, a tearful Williams turned and apologized to Andrea Adams, Christofi's sister, saying, "There's not a day I wake up that I don't feel sorry for what I did to Mr. Christofi and that I put you through this."

Adams wrote in a letter read by a court employee that the punishment "didn't fit the crime" and spoke of "eight years of agony watching Jayson Williams prance around and live his life and acting like nothing happened."

Williams paid Christofi's family more than $2 million in 2003 to settle a wrongful death lawsuit.

Williams had been free on bail since being charged in 2002, but was taken from the courtroom in handcuffs to begin serving his sentence.

On the night of the shooting, the 55-year-old Christofi had driven Williams and several of the basketball player's friends to Williams' mansion after taking them to a local restaurant.

Williams said at his plea hearing last month that he gave the group a tour of the house and showed them his gun collection in his bedroom. While showing off a double-barreled 12-gauge shotgun, Williams admitted, he failed to check the safety mechanism and inspected only one of the two barrels before snapping it shut.

The gun fired, striking Christofi once in the chest and killing him. Witnesses testified that Williams tried to cover up his involvement by initially placing the gun in Christofi's hands and instructing those present in the bedroom to lie about what happened.

"Had the defendant exercised one ounce of caution that night, Gus Christofi would still be alive and we wouldn't be here," Deputy Attorney General Steven Farman said Tuesday.

The legal wrangling in the case eventually took on a life of its own, beginning with a change of venue for the trial from Hunterdon County, the site of the shooting, to Somerset County.

In 2007, defense attorneys tried to get the case tossed out after Hunterdon County Prosecutor J. Patrick Barnes divulged that a white investigator in his office had used a racial slur to describe Williams, who is black, in a 2002 meeting. The dispute reached the state Supreme Court, but Coleman refused to throw out the 2004 convictions or the retrial.

# Kramer's gaffe makes wrong kind of Olympic memory

**VANCOUVER, British Columbia** (AP)—Bode Miller made the kind of mistake that happens in skiing, especially for a risk-taker like him.

The gaffe made by Dutch speedskater Sven Kramer? Unbelievable.

Kramer went through the grueling 10,000-meter race in what would've been record time, but was disqualified for not switching lanes while coming out of a turn about two-thirds into the race.

Here's the craziest part: Kramer actually made the switch but his coach missed it. Thinking his star was about to make an epic mistake, the coach animatedly motioned for Kramer to switch lanes. Kramer seemed to pause before deciding to follow orders.

Of all the kooky, costly mistakes made in popular North American sports, it's hard to find anything that compares. Maybe if Vikings coach Bud Grant had been the one telling defensive end Jim Marshall what to do when he scooped up a fumble and ran to the wrong end zone—and if that had been in the Super Bowl.

That's how off-the-charts this was.

Kramer certainly should've known better. This is a guy who's won the last three world championships at 5,000 and 10,000 meters; holds the world record at both distances; and already won gold and set an Olympic record in the 5,000 at this Olympics.

AP

Netherlands's Sven Kramer, left, shouts at his coach Gerard Kemkers, right, after he was disqualified during the men's 10,000 meter speed skating race at the Richmond Olympic Oval at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2010.

"I've seen it once or twice in my career," former speedskating champion Dan Jansen said on NBC, "but never with a top skater and certainly never in the Olympic Games."

All Miller did was lose control and fail to finish his first run down the giant slalom course

He missed his chance for a record fourth Alpine medal at a single Winter Games. But he notched what could be called a Bode Slam: a gold, a silver, a bronze and a DNF (did not finish).

Elsewhere around the Vancouver Olympics on Tuesday, Canada's hockey team bounced back with an 8-2 victory over Germany and Canadian figure skater Joannie Rochette earned the best score of her career under incredibly emotional circumstances—performing on home ice two days after her mother died of a heart attack shortly after arriving here. She'll go into the final Thursday night in third place.

Americans won silver in the Nordic combined, making it 26 medals at these games, breaking their record a Winter Olympics not held in the United States. Germany is closing in on the lead, though, with 22 medals.

With a silver in the women's skicross race, Norway became the first country to reach 300 Winter Olympics medals. Norway became the first country to reach 100 golds last week.

Nasty weather moved back into the area Tuesday, especially in the mountains, which could mess with the schedule Wednesday. There's a good chance the women's giant slalom will be delayed.

## SPEEDSKATING

Kramer crossed the line with a big smile, believing he'd won. He obviously didn't notice that he had skated the final eight laps in the same lane as the other skater in his pair.

The only hint was seeing his girlfriend in the stands, her head buried in her hands.

When coach Gerard Kemkers broke the news, Kramer flung his glasses, then stomped the heel of his blade into the ice. Just like that, Lee Seung-hoon of South Korea had the gold and Kramer moved into Olympic infamy, like the U.S. shooter who blew a sure gold medal by shooting at the wrong target during the 2004 Athens Olympics.

"I expected to be on the podium but not for the gold," said Lee, who won silver in the 5,000.

Kramer sat alone on a bench while the three medalists celebrated.

"It is pretty hard now," Kramer said.

Jonathan Kuck was the top American, finishing eighth.

## GIANT SLALOM

Miller almost crashed during the top half of his run, straightened out, then couldn't stay on line coming out of a gate in the second half.

"I'm taking more risk than everyone else," Miller told The Associated Press. "That's partly why I'm able to get medals. It looks easy when you make it. When you crash like today, it's like, 'Oh, huh?'"

It shouldn't have been much of a surprise: he's yet to finish a run this season in the giant slalom.

His final event is the slalom Saturday.

Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway got bronze, joining Miller with three Alpine medals. American Ted Ligety finished ninth.

The women's event is scheduled for Wednesday, but rain and snow is forecast. That will be Julia Mancuso's final event in Vancouver. Mancuso, who already has won two silver medals, said she won't be competing in the slalom, her worst event.

## HOCKEY

Jarome Iginla scored twice and new goalie Roberto Luongo was good enough to get the Canadians back on track and into a colossal quarterfinal game against Russia, a matchup many expected for the gold-medal game.

"Hopefully it's not our biggest game this week," Luongo said.

The U.S. men's team will face Switzerland (again) in the quarterfinals. The Swiss advanced with a 3-2 shootout victory over Belarus. The Americans beat them 3-1 last Tuesday.

The two late games were marred by injuries: Slovakia forward Lubos Bartecko leaving on a stretcher after being leveled by a Norway defender, and Czech's Jaromir Jagr going out in the second period against Latvia with an upper-body injury.

Slovakia put aside the worrisome injury and the anger resulting from the hit that caused it to beat Norway 4-3. The team now moves to the Olympic quarterfinals to play Sweden.

The Czech Republic will play Finland after beating Latvia 3-2 in overtime. Slovakia and Norway were playing later to see who would play Olympic champion Sweden.

All quarterfinals are Wednesday.

## NORDIC COMBINED

Johnny Spillane became the first American to win a medal in this event, getting silver earlier in these games. Now he's got another—and sharing it with his friends.

The team of Spillane, Todd Lodwick, Billy Demong and Brett Camerota was a narrow second in the team relay event, which combined jumping off the large hill, then a 4-by-5 kilometer relay.

## FIGURE SKATING

South Korea's Kim Yu-na came in a huge favorite to win the women's gold medal, then exceeded expectations.

Kim set a world-best score in the short program, giving her a huge lead over her top rival, Japan's Mao Asada. Rochette is next, with a decent edge over the rest of the pack.

"It was hard to handle, but I appreciate the support," she said.

American Rachael Flatt and Mirai Nagasu are fifth and sixth. Nagasu was thrown out of whack when her nose started bleeding halfway through her routine.

## BOBSLED

Midway through the women's competition, the USA-2 sled of Erin Pac and Elana Myers is in second place. The Americans set a track record in their second run, only to have the Canada 1 crew lower it by four-hundredths of a second.

Two other U.S. tandems are tied for sixth.

## BIATHLON

About the only thing that went wrong for the Russians was no one near the finish line offering up their flag. That was why Olga Zaitseva slowed to the finish and ended up giving high-fives and blowing kisses.

The Americans were 17th.

## SKICROSS

What a way to break in a sport: Ashleigh McIvor, who grew up in nearby Whistler and is ranked second in the world, won the final going away.

"Skicross is the newest form of ski racing, but in its essence, it's been around forever," she said. "It's racing your friends from the top of the mountain to the bottom. The IOC is really interested in keeping up with the next generation, and keeping the Olympics cool, and skicross is a great way to do that."

## CURLING

A day after the U.S. men were eliminated, the women were, too, following a loss to China. They lost their finale to Switzerland to finish 2-7, worst in the tournament.

# Eagles release running back Westbrook after 8 seasons

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Brian Westbrook could break open a game from almost anywhere on the field.

Lined up in the slot, he could run a slant, beat a linebacker and take off with no one able to catch No. 36. His defining moment with the Philadelphia Eagles came on an 84-yard punt return that stunned the New York Giants in 2003.

Out of the backfield, he was a 1,000-yard rusher who always kept defenses guessing—and flailing.

But in his later years, it was injuries that defined Westbrook more than his dynamic offensive skills. His age, salary and lengthy list of beaten body parts led the Eagles to release him Tuesday and save the team $7.5 million due next year.

"I think we all know that Brian is one of the all-time great Philadelphia Eagles," coach Andy Reid said. "For what we've done here over the years, Brian has been just a huge part of building this program to the level that we're at now. My heart will always be a Brian Westbrook fan as we go forward here."

A former All-Pro, the 5-foot-10 Westbrook led the league in yards from scrimmage in 2007 with 2,104. He rushed for 1,333 yards and accounted 12 touchdowns that season.

But he spent much of last season on the sidelines, missing eight games with a pair of concussions and an ankle injury. Westbrook had only two touchdowns in 2009.

Reid said he called Westbrook with the news Tuesday morning. Reid said Westbrook should still have an opportunity to play for another team. Reid said he thinks Westbrook still wants to play.

"I don't know that for a fact, but I think he might want to do that," Reid said.

LeSean McCoy, who rushed for 637 yards with four touchdowns in 16 games as a rookie, will become Philadelphia's No. 1 running back.

"That's who's going to take the ball from here," Reid said.

Westbrook's season went south on Oct. 26 when his helmet collided with Washington linebacker London Fletcher's right knee and he suffered a concussion. Westbrook missed the last five games after suffering his second concussion in three weeks against San Diego on Nov. 15. He was cleared to return for the postseason.

He has rushed for 5,995 yards in eight seasons in Philadelphia and caught 426 passes for 3,790 yards. The 30-year-old Westbrook has scored 68 touchdowns rushing, receiving and on punt returns.

"He had no weaknesses," Reid said. "There wasn't any one thing that you could pick out that he was not good at; he was brilliant. There are just certain guys that are just football smart and he was one of those guys."

Westbrook, a third-round pick out of Villanova in the 2002 draft, is Philadelphia's career leader in yards from scrimmage (9,785). He also ranks second in yards rushing (5,995) behind Wilbert Montgomery and third in receptions (426) behind Harold Carmichael and Pete Retzlaff.

He is third in team history behind Carmichael and Steve Van Buren in touchdowns and holds the franchise single-season record for most scrimmage yards in a season (2,104 in 2007) and most receptions in a season (90 in 2007).

He eclipsed the 100-yard rushing mark 20 times (including playoffs) during his career, tying for second-most in club history.

"Brian Westbrook is one of the most electrifying players in the history of this franchise and is certainly also one of the most popular," Eagles chairman Jeffrey Lurie said. "He was personally one of the my favorite players to watch each and every Sunday, and his playmaking abilities, leadership and values will be missed."

Westbrook is the second high-profile running back to be released in two days following LaDainian Tomlinson being shown the door by the San Diego Chargers. Both Westbrook and Tomlinson turned 30 last summer and have been sidelined by injuries that kept them from performing at the level they displayed in their primes.

## TAN

From Page 28

fastest among the 16 swimmers (various age groups) who competed in the 50m breaststroke. Tan's teammate and 12-year-old Steven Choi had the second fastest time at 45.53 second, while another Tsunami swimmer, Ryosei Toda, submitted 46.44 seconds.

Another Welch record fell when Tan clocked in at 1:31.27 in the 100m breaststroke. Welch's previous mark was 1:35.37 recorded on Jan. 22, 2000.

Tan's new record was the second fastest among the four swimmers who raced in the 100m breaststroke. Thirteen-year-old Kaisei Toda posted the best time in the heat with his 1:28.39. Tan was second, followed by Ryosei Toda (1:39.52), and Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru (1:42:50).

Tan's third record was still in the breaststroke event (200m) when she clocked in at 3:16.71. No previous CNMI age group mark in the 200m (girls division) was entered in the record book.

According to Tsunami coach Hiro Kimura, Northern Marianas Swimming Federation's ruling for filling up a blank record states that when an athlete surpasses the existing 100m of same stroke record, then the athlete's fastest 50m or 200m time during his/her age-group race would be recognized as the new CNMI age group mark.

Tan and Kensuke Kimura were the only two swimmers who plunged into the pool for the 200m breaststroke with the latter submitting 2:57.00.

Meanwhile, the boys' 9 to 10 age group now has five records belonging to Yanai.

Yanai, who set two marks last year (200m individual medley and 100m butterfly mark), added the 50m and 100m freestyle, and 50m butterfly to his list.

The 10-year-old swimmer timed in at 31.67 seconds in the 50m freestyle, passing the 32.34 seconds set by SSC's Maxi Braig on April 4, 2009. Yanai's time was the fourth fastest that day behind Kai Staal's 25.63 seconds, Shin Kimura's 27.99 seconds, and Kensuke Kimura's 30.10 seconds.

In the 100m freestyle, Yanai posted 1:09.49, breaking anew the 1:11.57 mark Braig made on April 3, 2009. Yanai's 100m freestyle time was the fifth fastest in the event. Staal held the best record of the day at 55.98 seconds, followed by Shin Kimura (1:00.59), Kaisei Toda (1:07.77), and SSC's Grace Kimball (1:08.09).

Yanai also bumped off Braig in the record books in the 50m butterfly, as the former timed in at 33.99 seconds, crushing the 37.84 seconds the latter set on Feb. 6, 2009.

With their success in the dual meet, Tan and Yanai earned the right to represent Tsunami Saipan to the Tokyo Junior Sprint 2010 next month at the Tatsumi International Swimming Stadium.

Last year, Tsunami Saipan sent Kensuke Kimura and Staal in the same meet with the latter winning a silver medal in the 50m breaststroke and bronze medal in the 50m freestyle.

## PATRIOTS

From Page 28

They won the Juniors championship in 2009, besting five other squads, including the Ol'Aces in the finals, 8-4.

This season, the Patriots will have to pass more stumbling blocks to claim the championship again, as the Junior division has eight teams competing for the title.

"It will be tougher this year, as we have more teams, so we have to work harder, prepare harder every game, and show more focus," Patriots manager Thelma Mizer said.

The Pats will aim to defend the championship with only five players returning from last year's roster. They are Chris Mizer, Jun and Jeremy Rabauliman, Juljean Ngeskebei, and Jared Sablan. Veteran slugger Manny Sablan is also back on the team as coach and will have another familiar name in local baseball, Roy Celis, as his assistant.

Thelma Mizer said with only five returnees and with ace pitcher Brian Camacho leaving for Idaho, they had to start recruiting players and prepare for the league early.

"We started in October and got a couple of good pitchers, who we believe are great addition to the team," Mizer said.

The Pats new recruits are, Ray Saralu, Ken and Lucio Kalen, Brandon Philip, Yoichi Arurang, Brett Halstead, and Jonathan Villagomez.

Ngeskebei went 3-for-4 at the plate, tallied three runs, and recorded five RBIs in the Pats' 20-14 win over Ol'Aces during the league's opening game. In their second match, the defending champions had another breakout game, crushing Red Sox, 23-5.

The Pats are the lone team so far to score at least 20 runs in their first two games, sending a strong signal to squads aiming to dethrone the 2009 champion.

"We had a good start, but this does not mean the rest of our games will be easy. Every team is a contender and we can't be overconfident. We have to do what we have been doing since our first game to keep our momentum. There's not let up in every game," Mizer said.

The Pats manager said they needed to continue playing as a team, stick to every game plan, and maintain their discipline.

"When we call practice and game times, they must come on time or face a consequence from their lack of discipline. It's okay if their reason has something to do with school, but if it is because of laziness, they will not be excused. Having disciplined players are vital in every sport," Mizer added.

Meanwhile, the Pats wished to thank Docomo Pacific for sponsoring the team this season.

"We are very thankful to Docomo, not only for sponsoring the team, but also for allowing us to keep the squad's name (Patriots). We are playing in this league for our braved soldiers and we want people to remember that. Every time we go to the field, they will see the team's name in our uniforms," Mizer said.

## PRO

From Page 28

ning for her sixth straight title. She successfully defended her crown in 2009 after pulling off a come-from-behind win over United Kingdom and XTERRA World champion Julie Dibens. Dibens will not be returning this year, leaving current U.S. champion and seven-time National Off-Road Bicycle Association winner Vanlandingham as Bucher's toughest rival. Colorado-native Vanlandingham finished third in her XTERRA Saipan debut last year.

"We expect some of the athletes to start arriving first week of March to get acclimated to the heat. We expect over 100 participants in the XTERRA Championship and the XTERRA Sport," Mojica said.

Ogasawara and Vine should be on Saipan, more than a week before XTERRA Saipan, as they will be holding XTERRA University on March 10 and 11. XTERRA University will have pros conducting sessions aimed at improving athletes' swimming, mountain biking, trail running, transition, and other XTERRA racing skills. It involves lecture, application, and question and answer sessions. Through these aspiring triathletes get expert advice about specific challenges one will face in XTERRA.

Vine will be in charge of the session in English, while Ogasawara will hold a separate clinic in Japanese. Entry fee for the two-day clinic is $100.

The Canadian Vine is the first winner of XTERRA Saipan Championship in 2002 and after missing the next six editions of the annual event, he returned last year and finished second behind Gardner.

Meanwhile, there will be more activities before and after XTERRA Saipan and Tagaman. These include XTERRA 5/10K Sunset Fun Run (March 12), Tank 2 Tank Swims (March 15 and 17), pro bike clinic (March 16) and pro swim clinic (March 18), Hash Run (March 17), best ball golf (March 18), several tours around the island and BBQ parties.

These activities are part of the 2010 Sports Fest and will have participants from Japan, Korea, Guam, and other countries enjoying the hospitality of the local hosts and the beauty of the island.

## SONICS

From Page 28

for the Sonics, putting them in a share for the lead in Division A with Rollers.

The win came in handy for the Sonics when they held Moonlight scoreless in more than five minutes in the fourth quarter and the latter committed a lot of errors against the former's pressure defense.

Moonlight was still in the lead at the end of the third period, 69-66, when the Sonics started to hustle on defense and connect on their shots to recover in the fourth quarter. Seven straight points from Leo Galarse put the Sonics in the lead, 75-74, and from there the Omar Ajoste-coached team began to pull away while Moonlight went cold.

Moonlight had its last basket courtesy of Mike Umali's incomplete three-point play, cutting the Sonics' lead to three, 81-84, with less than five minutes left in the final canto.

A triple from Lester Babauta then sparked another Sonics' rally, while Moonlight continued to struggle offensively and lose possessions.

Galarse top-scored for Sonics with 24 points, while Cris Lansang chipped in 14. Six other Sonics scored at least six points, helping the team's breakaway in the fourth canto.

Umali tallied 21 points for Moonlight, which dropped to 1-2 record.

In the first game, Managaha improved to a 2-2 mark, following a 60-43 rout of MTV Construction.

Managaha took an early double-digit lead, 24-12, at the end of the first quarter behind the combined 12 points of Resty Vergara and Ken Tanzawa.

MTV then played its best offensive game in the second period, outscoring Managaha, 14-9, to move within seven at the break, 26-33. However, MTV's offense had a major downturn at the start of the second half, as it scored only four points in the third quarter.

MTV Construction drew only a field goal from Darwin Gonzales and one free threw each from Jun Liberato and Ferdee Generoso. Managaha's offense was not that fluid too, but frequent trips to the stripe helped the team's cause. Managaha converted eight free throws, putting its lead back to double-digits, 45-30, entering the final quarter.

The eventual winner protected its big lead in the fourth quarter with Larry Sharry, who had only a field goal in the first three periods, scoring eight of Managaha's last 10 points.

**First Game**

**Managaha 60** – L. Sharry 13, Vergara 12, Tanzawa 8, C. Samson 7, Jesse 7, Navarro 6, Bernardo 5, P. Samson 2, Calayag 1.

**MTV Contractor 43** – Gonzales 13, Ebuen 8, Tenorio 6, Leong 2, Ancheta 3, Documos 2, Chinen 2, Liberato 1, Generoso 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-12, 33-26, 45-30, 60-43.

**Second Game**

**Sonics 107** – Galarse 24, Lansang 14, Towan 9, Eclevia 8, Javier 8, del Rosario 8, Ong 7, B. Ajoste 6, Apelo 4, Babauta 3, Calvo 2, Galulu 2.

**Moonlight 81** – Umali 21, Montano 17, Nonato 13, Martin 11, Illahi 9, Camacho 5, Pablo 2, Reyes 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 27-17, 54-46, 66-69, 107-81.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 36 | 19 | .655 | – |
| Toronto | 31 | 24 | .564 | 5 |
| Philadelphia | 22 | 34 | .393 | 14 1/2 |
| New York | 19 | 37 | .339 | 17 1/2 |
| New Jersey | 5 | 52 | .088 | 32 |

**Southeast Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Orlando | 38 | 19 | .667 | – |
| Atlanta | 35 | 20 | .636 | 2 |
| Miami | 29 | 29 | .500 | 9 1/2 |
| Charlotte | 27 | 28 | .491 | 10 |
| Washington | 20 | 34 | .370 | 16 1/2 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cleveland | 44 | 14 | .759 | – |
| Chicago | 29 | 27 | .518 | 14 |
| Milwaukee | 27 | 28 | .491 | 15 1/2 |
| Detroit | 21 | 35 | .375 | 22 |
| Indiana | 19 | 37 | .339 | 24 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dallas | 36 | 21 | .632 | – |
| San Antonio | 31 | 23 | .574 | 3 1/2 |
| New Orleans | 30 | 27 | .526 | 6 |
| Houston | 28 | 27 | .509 | 7 |
| Memphis | 28 | 28 | .500 | 7 1/2 |

**Northwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denver | 37 | 19 | .661 | – |
| Utah | 36 | 20 | .643 | 1 |
| Oklahoma City | 33 | 22 | .600 | 3 1/2 |
| Portland | 33 | 26 | .559 | 5 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 14 | 44 | .241 | 24 |

**Pacific Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L.A. Lakers | 43 | 14 | .754 | – |
| Phoenix | 35 | 23 | .603 | 8 1/2 |
| L.A. Clippers | 23 | 33 | .411 | 19 1/2 |
| Sacramento | 18 | 39 | .316 | 25 |
| Golden State | 16 | 40 | .286 | 26 1/2 |

**Yesterday's Games**

Cleveland 105, New Orleans 95
Boston 110, New York 106
Minnesota 91, Miami 88
Portland 102, New Jersey 93
L.A. Lakers 99, Memphis 98
Phoenix 104, Oklahoma City 102
Detroit 101, Sacramento 89
Philadelphia 110, Golden State 102

### NBA LEADERS

**Scoring**

| | G | FG | FT | PTS | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| James, CLE | 57 | 578 | 450 | 1710 | 30.0 |
| Durant, OKC | 54 | 527 | 475 | 1610 | 29.8 |
| Anthony, DEN | 43 | 425 | 362 | 1254 | 29.2 |
| Bryant, LAL | 51 | 527 | 302 | 1426 | 28.0 |
| Wade, MIA | 55 | 508 | 365 | 1436 | 26.1 |
| Ellis, GOL | 50 | 506 | 231 | 1291 | 25.8 |
| Nowitzki, DAL | 56 | 492 | 369 | 1383 | 24.7 |
| Bosh, TOR | 53 | 463 | 368 | 1300 | 24.5 |
| Johnson, ATL | 55 | 472 | 156 | 1196 | 21.7 |
| Stoudemire, PHX | 57 | 458 | 300 | 1216 | 21.3 |
| Jackson, CHA | 55 | 418 | 231 | 1152 | 20.9 |
| Randolph, MEM | 55 | 452 | 210 | 1121 | 20.4 |
| Maggette, GOL | 50 | 324 | 355 | 1013 | 20.3 |
| Lee, NYK | 55 | 467 | 173 | 1107 | 20.1 |
| Evans, SAC | 51 | 375 | 250 | 1026 | 20.1 |
| Gay, MEM | 53 | 409 | 205 | 1065 | 20.1 |
| Rose, CHI | 56 | 468 | 172 | 114 | 19.9 |
| Kaman, LAC | 50 | 407 | 170 | 984 | 19.7 |
| Brooks, HOU | 55 | 374 | 176 | 1061 | 19.3 |
| Boozer, UTA | 53 | 412 | 198 | 1022 | 19.3 |

**FG Percentage**

| | FG | FGA | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|
| Perkins, BOS | 237 | 387 | .612 |
| Howard, ORL | 344 | 574 | .599 |
| Hilario, DEN | 299 | 506 | .591 |
| Gasol, MEM | 303 | 522 | .580 |
| Millsap, UTA | 268 | 465 | .576 |
| Bynum, LAL | 320 | 563 | .568 |
| Horford, ATL | 312 | 550 | .567 |
| O'Neal, CLE | 250 | 442 | .566 |
| Haywood, DAL | 210 | 375 | .560 |
| Lee, NYK | 467 | 838 | .557 |

**Rebounds**

| | G | OFF | DEF | TOT | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Howard, ORL | 57 | 204 | 565 | 769 | 13.5 |
| Camby, POR | 53 | 176 | 465 | 641 | 12.1 |
| Randolph, MEM | 55 | 238 | 407 | 645 | 11.7 |
| Noah, CHI | 48 | 178 | 378 | 556 | 11.6 |
| Lee, NYK | 55 | 144 | 486 | 630 | 11.5 |
| Bosh, TOR | 53 | 159 | 446 | 605 | 11.4 |
| Boozer, UTA | 53 | 115 | 476 | 591 | 11.2 |
| Duncan, SAN | 51 | 170 | 389 | 559 | 11.0 |
| Wallace, CHA | 53 | 110 | 462 | 572 | 10.8 |
| Bogut, MIL | 49 | 155 | 357 | 512 | 10.4 |

**Assists**

| | G | AST | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nash, PHX | 57 | 638 | 11.2 |
| Paul, NOR | 38 | 424 | 11.2 |
| Williams, UTA | 50 | 497 | 9.9 |
| Rondo, BOS | 53 | 514 | 9.7 |
| Kidd, DAL | 56 | 513 | 9.2 |
| James, CLE | 57 | 479 | 8.4 |
| Davis, LAC | 54 | 424 | 7.9 |
| Westbrook, OKC | 54 | 414 | 7.7 |
| Wade, MIA | 55 | 352 | 6.4 |
| Duhon, NYK | 54 | 332 | 6.1 |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### LOCAL SCORES

**NAVY HILL STANDINGS**

**Division A**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rollers | 3 | 0 |
| Sonics | 3 | 0 |
| Torch Bearers | 2 | 1 |
| Lynn's BBQ | 2 | 1 |
| Navy Hill | 1 | 0 |
| Moonlight | 1 | 2 |
| Tropical Laundry | 1 | 2 |
| Viel's | 0 | 2 |
| Morales Team | 0 | 2 |
| Star Water | 0 | 2 |
| Koi Bar | 0 | 3 |

**Division B**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| QQ Rent | 2 | 0 |
| DL Cooking Gas | 2 | 0 |
| Strikers | 1 | 0 |
| Sparks | 1 | 0 |
| GEC | 2 | 1 |
| Managaha | 2 | 2 |
| Pacific Pawnshop | 0 | 1 |
| NVM | 0 | 2 |
| Grillin' | 0 | 2 |
| MTV Construction | 0 | 3 |

# 2009 NMASA Annual Awards Banquet

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Female Student Athlete of the Month awardees, from left, Yvonne Bennett, Melody Johnson, Angel Marie Tan, Jacque Wonenberg, and Mikayla Lopez receive their certificate of recognition.

2009 Male Athlete of the Year awardee, Ji Hoon Heo, right, poses with mentor and CNMI coach Jeff Race, who was inducted to the CNMI Hall of Fame this year.

From left, Michael Mancao, representing Male Student Athlete of the Year Matthew Mancao, Female Student Athlete of the Year Jacque Wonenberg, former NMA president Kurt Barnes, Female Athlete of the Year Yvonne Bennett, and NMA official Robin Sapong pose for a group photo.

Hall of Famer Frank Castro, second left, is joined by his fellow golfers at the 2009 NMASA Annual Awards Banquet at the Seaside Hall of the Saipan Grand Hotel.

Hall of Famer Jeff Race, center, poses with NMASA president Mike White, left, and secretary Rose Igitol during the 2009 NMASA Annual Awards Banquet at the Seaside Hall of the Saipan Grand Hotel.

NMASA president Michael White, right, and Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan shake hands, sealing NMASA and Tan Siu Lin Foundation's partnership.

Male Student Athlete of the Month awardees, from left, Rafael Jones, Kensuke Kimura, Ji Hoon Heo, and Clay McCullough-Stearns.

Female Athlete of the Month awardees, from left, Lydia Tan, Leina Kim, Yvonne Bennett, and Thea Minor.

Male Athlete of the Month awardees, from left, Kai Staal, Ji Hoon Heo, Jess Wabol, Richard Sikkel, and Tars Olopai.

2009 Female Athlete of the Year awardee Yvonne Bennett, center, is joined by fellow awardees, former NMA president Kurt Barnes, NMA president and Rep. Ray Tebuteb, and her parents for a group photo.

*Kramer's gaffe makes wrong kind of Olympic memory*

25

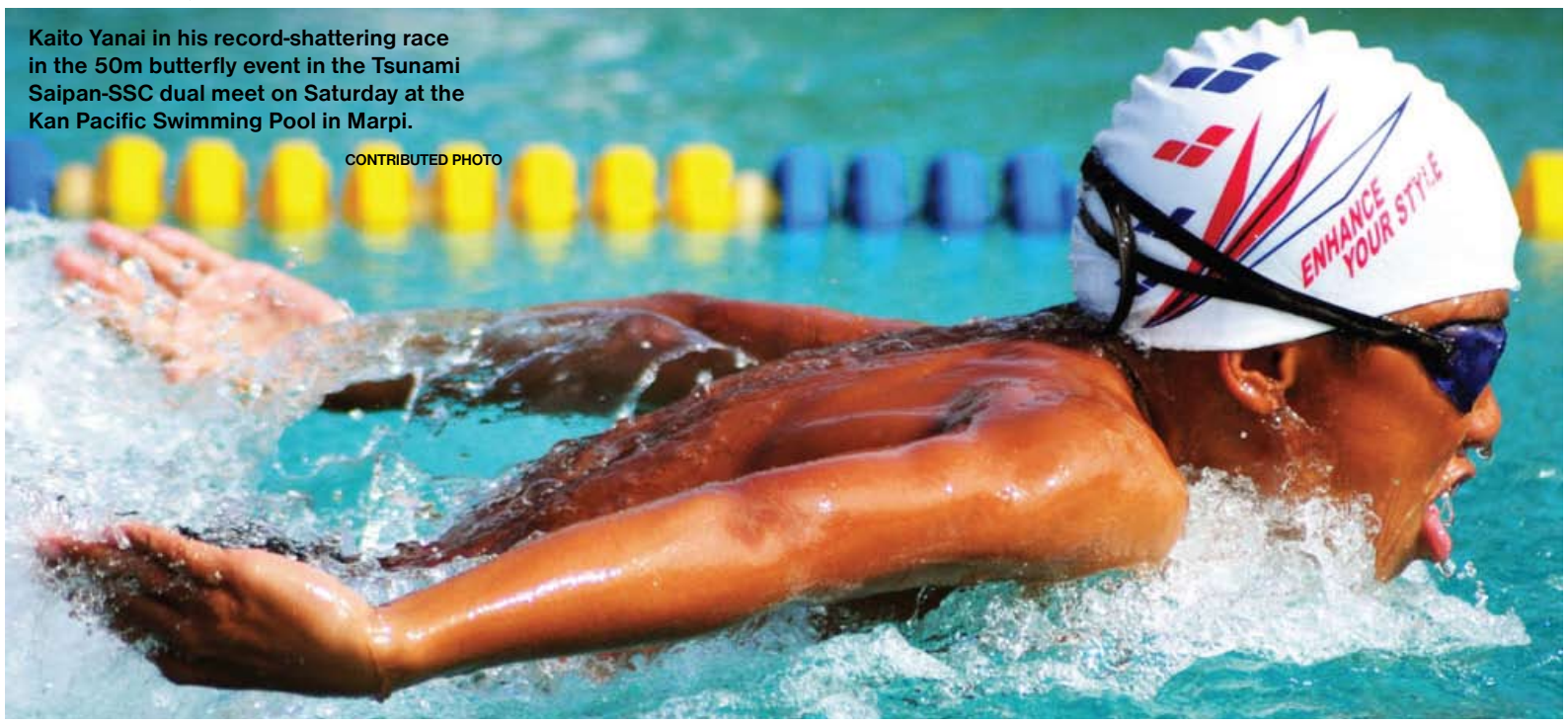
Saipan Tribune
Sports

*Kobe scores 32 in return as Lakers beat Grizzlies*

24



# Tan, Yanai shatter swim marks



Kaito Yanai in his record-shattering race in the 50m butterfly event in the Tsunami Saipan-SSC dual meet on Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Angel Marie Tan is shown here in her record-breaking swim in the 100m breaststroke in the Tsunami Saipan-SSC dual meet on Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

**By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan's Angel Marie Tan and Kaito Yanai had record-breaking performances in the 2010 Saipan Swim Club-Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan dual meet on Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Both Tsunami Saipan swimmers made three new swim marks in their respective age groups.

Tan logged the first record of the day when she timed in at 41.86 seconds in the 50m breaststroke in the girls' 9 to 10 age group. Tan's time eclipsed the 42.52 seconds Myana Welch set on March 30, 2000.

The time of the 10-year-old Tan was also the

*See TAN on Page 26*

## Sonics, Managaha rout separate foes

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Sonics' Leo Apelo, right, goes for an acrobatic shot against the umbrella defense of Moonlight Shopping's Chris Camacho during their game in the Navy Hill caging on Tuesday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

**By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Sonics stepped on the gas pedal in the fourth quarter en route to a 107-81 demolition of Moonlight in the second game in the 2010 Navy Hill Friendship Basketball League on Tuesday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The victory was third in as many games

*See SONICS on Page 26*

## Patriots vow to keep strong showing



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Patriots pose for a group photo before their game in the Junior league division of the SLLB last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

**By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

The Docomo Pacific-backed Patriots vowed not to rest on their laurels, as they aim to defend their Junior division title in the 2010 Saipan Little League Baseball against more teams and much tougher squads this season.

The Patriots, who got their team name in honor of CNMI soldiers serving in the U.S. military, moved up to the Junior League last year after reigning in the Majors for three straight years.

*See PATRIOTS on Page 26*

## Pro triathletes to arrive early for XTERRA, Tagaman

**By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

The first batch of pro triathletes competing in the 2010 XTERRA Saipan Championship and 2010 Tagaman Triathlon will be arriving on Saipan first week of March to get acclimated in time for the two biggest races in the region.

Taga, Inc. president Wolf Mojica said defending champions Sam Gardner of the United Kingdom and Renata Bucher of Switzerland lead the list of pros coming to Saipan for the Crown Jewel of XTERRA Tour and Tagaman.

Joining the two defending champions are Shonny Vanlandingham, Jason Chalker, Mike Vine, Takahiro Ogasawara, and Yu Yamoto. Five to six more pros from Vanlandingham and Gardner's groups will have their debut in the off-road triathlon race set for March 13. Tagaman is set the following week or on March 20.

In this year's XTERRA Saipan, Bucher will be gun-

*See PRO on Page 26*

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Switzerland's Renata Bucher negotiates one of the dirt roads in the bike leg of last year's XTERRA Saipan Championship.